

WHEN GOD MOVES

Stories of Faith. Proof of Power.
Invitations to Believe for More.



TERRY RUFF

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WHEN GOD MOVES

Extraordinary Prayer That Ignites Disciple-Making Movements

Terry Ruff

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Dedication

To every believer who prays before they go —
and who keeps praying as the movement grows.

You are the hidden engine of multiplication.

And to every prayer group meeting quietly in a living room, under a tree, or on a Zoom call — your prayers are shaping nations you may never visit.

Contents

Introduction

Every movement in Scripture begins the same way — with prayer.

Not casual prayer. Not occasional prayer. Not prayer as a last resort. Extraordinary prayer — persistent, unified, harvest-focused, and expectant.

This book walks through ten articles exploring the prayer patterns that ignite and sustain Disciple-Making Movements. You will read about prayer-walking in East Africa, fasting in North India, multiplying prayer groups in Sierra Leone, and ordinary believers in Southeast Asia who discovered that prayer is not preparation for the work — it is the work.

Each article draws from Scripture and from field reports spanning five continents. Each one asks something of you.

Because God is not looking for the most trained, the most connected, or the most resourced. He is looking for the most prayerful.

When God moves, prayer always moves first.

— Terry Ruff

Article 1

Prayer Is the First Step of Every Movement

November 22, 2025

How Extraordinary Prayer Prepares the Way for Multiplying Disciples

Every movement in Scripture begins the same way — with prayer. Not casual prayer. Not occasional prayer. Not “when we have time” prayer. Movements begin with extraordinary prayer — believers seeking God with persistence, unity, hunger, and expectation. Before the gospel swept through Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth... Before 3,000 were baptized in a day... Before the sick were healed and churches multiplied... There was a prayer meeting.

“They all joined together constantly in prayer...” — Acts 1:14

You cannot separate Acts 1 from Acts 2. You cannot separate the upper room from the movement that followed. Every Disciple-Making Movement (DMM) today tells the same story: Prayer always comes first. Always.

This series begins with the foundation that fuels all multiplication — the kind of prayer that invites God to do what only He can do.

Prayer Is How God Softens Hearts Before We Ever Arrive

Jesus taught the disciples to pray drastically before they ever preached.

In Luke 10, before the seventy-two were sent into the harvest fields, Jesus gave only one command: “Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers...” — Luke 10:2. Prayer is not what we do after the work. Prayer is the work that makes the rest possible. Movements are born when God goes ahead of us — softening hearts, preparing Persons of Peace, opening doors, shifting atmospheres, and drawing seekers to Himself. We don’t start movements. We start prayer. God starts the movement.

A Story From India: The Movement That Began With 90 Days of Extraordinary Prayer

One of the most documented modern DMMs is the Bhojpuri movement in North India — now numbering millions of baptized disciples.

But few people know how it began.

In the 1990s, a small team of believers committed themselves to 90 days of nonstop, extraordinary prayer. They:

prayer-walked villages

fasted regularly

held all-night prayer meetings

prayed Scripture over districts

asked God to raise up Persons of Peace

pleaded for God to break spiritual strongholds

At the end of those 90 days, they began sharing the gospel.

What happened? People were strangely receptive. God-prepared households began opening on their own. Discovery Bible groups started multiplying. Persecutors became preachers. Villages were transformed.

According to movement researchers like David Garrison and Victor John, what unfolded next became one of the largest disciple-making movements in modern history.

Sources: Garrison, Church Planting Movements; Victor John, Bhojpuri Breakthrough; Trousdale & Sunshine, The Kingdom Unleashed.

And it all began with prayer.

A Story From East Africa: Prayer Walking That Opened Entire Villages

Curtis Sergeant (Zúme Training) recounts a story from East Africa where a small team spent 21 days prayer-walking a cluster of unreached villages before sharing the gospel even once.

For 3 weeks they prayed over:

schools

markets

roads

homes

witchcraft sites

community wells

fields of harvest

They asked God to:

break spiritual barriers

reveal Persons of Peace

open relational networks

prepare hearts through dreams and visions

When they finally began engaging people, the movement exploded.

Within two years, those villages saw:

dozens of new DBS groups

multiple streams 10+ generations deep

rapid baptisms

new leaders emerging from unexpected places

Their testimony is always the same: “God had already done the hard work before we arrived.”

Source: Curtis Sergeant, Zúme Training, East Africa case studies.

Why Extraordinary Prayer Produces Extraordinary Results

1. Prayer Prepares the Soil of People’s Hearts

Evangelism is not persuading people — it is discovering those whom God already prepared. Prayer opens their hearts before your words ever reach them.

2. Prayer Invites God’s Power Where Our Efforts Fall Short

Movements don’t happen through personality, programs, or platforms. Movements require supernatural shifts. Prayer brings heaven’s resources to earth’s challenges.

3. Prayer Breaks Spiritual Strongholds

Behind every unreached people group or resistant community is a spiritual barrier. Paul said:

“We wrestle not against flesh and blood...” (Ephesians 6:12)

Prayer targets the invisible walls that prevent visible fruitfulness.

4. Prayer Awakens the Church to Its Mission

Prayer rearranges priorities. Prayer breaks comfort. Prayer restores urgency. Prayer transforms spectators into soldiers.

5. Prayer Raises Up Workers

Jesus tied prayer directly to workers. We don't recruit workers — we pray for them. And God sends them.

The Forgotten Ingredient in Western Ministry

In almost every movement, extraordinary prayer is normal. But in many Western contexts, prayer is supplemental. In movements, prayer is central.

Extraordinary prayer is:

frequent (daily, not occasional)

unified (groups, not individuals only)

focused (harvest, not just personal needs)

expectant (believing God will answer)

persistent (kept going until God moved)

reproducible (others can start it easily)

If we restore this pattern, multiplication will return.

Practical Step: How to Start a Simple Harvest Prayer Rhythm

Start with three simple daily prayers:

1. "Lord, send workers into this harvest." (Luke 10:2) — Pray this at 10:02 every morning or night.
2. "Lord, show me the Person of Peace You prepared today." — Expect divine appointments.
3. "Lord, start a multiplying movement here." — Believe God can do it in your city.

One person praying is powerful. Ten people praying is catalytic. One hundred people praying is explosive. One thousand people praying is movement-level.

Imagine What Would Happen If the West Coast Multiplied Prayer Groups

Picture San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Vancouver...

3–4 believers meeting weekly for movement prayer

Each group training another group

Prayer spreading generationally — 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 10th generation

Entire cities prayed over

Workers raised up

Persons of Peace discovered

Multiplying disciples emerging everywhere

Prayer groups can multiply faster than churches. And wherever prayer multiplies, movements follow.

A Gentle Word for Traditional Churches

Traditional churches carry enormous spiritual weight. Many already pray faithfully. This series is not about leaving Sunday behind — it's about igniting a fresh movement of prayer inside the church that spills outward into the harvest.

Extraordinary prayer honors the gathered church while mobilizing the scattered church.

Everything Begins With Prayer — Everything

Every movement in Acts. Every movement in history. Every movement today.

Before disciples multiplied... Before leaders emerged... Before churches formed... Before persecution broke out... Before the gospel spread...

There was prayer.

If we want to see God move again, we must begin where every movement began. On our knees.

Call to Action

Who can you invite to join a simple weekly movement-prayer group?

Tag someone below: "Let's pray for a movement together."

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Article 2

Prayer That Prepares the Way

November 23, 2025

How Extraordinary Prayer Breaks Open Hard Places

When God is about to move, He almost always begins the same way: He stirs His people to pray beyond what they've ever prayed before.

Extraordinary prayer is never accidental. It's birthed from hunger, desperation, and a growing realization that only God can do what must be done. Movements aren't engineered — they're prayed into existence.

Extraordinary prayer does not just ask God to bless our efforts — it prepares the spiritual ground for a Disciple-Making Movement (DMM) to break open.

1. Extraordinary Prayer Softens the Hardest Soil

Reference: Shodankeh Johnson — Sierra Leone DMM. Source: New Wineskins Conference, 2022; Movements Podcast Episode "Prayer and Fasting in Sierra Leone"

Before the church-planting movement exploded in Sierra Leone, Shodankeh Johnson and his team spent months in focused prayer and fasting. They walked villages, prayed over chiefdoms, and asked God for open homes — and open hearts.

They saw little fruit at first. But the prayer didn't stop.

Then, in one coastal village known for hostility toward Christians, a local chief approached them and said:

For weeks I have not slept. God kept bringing you to my mind. Please come tell us your message.

The entire village heard the gospel. A discovery group formed. Then a church. Then five more.

Today, the movement in Sierra Leone has produced thousands of new churches and tens of thousands of new disciples — and Shodankeh is clear about the secret:

"Movements don't begin with strategy. They begin with prayer. Extraordinary prayer prepares the way for everything else."

2. Extraordinary Prayer Breaks Spiritual Strongholds

Reference: Bhojpuri Movement — North India. Source: David Garrison, Church Planting Movements; Victor John, The Bhojpuri Breakthrough

Before the famous Bhojpuri movement in North India took off — a work that has now produced millions of baptized disciples — the soil was barren. Their early workers said:

"It was like trying to plow concrete."

But they adopted a simple rhythm:

fast every Friday

pray daily for hurting families

prayer-walk unreached neighborhoods

ask God to reveal persons of peace

meet as teams for extended intercession

For over a year, nothing dramatic happened. But under the surface — in the unseen realm — the ground was cracking.

Then the breakthrough came. A respected Hindu family asked for prayer for a dying relative. God healed her. Word spread. Discovery groups multiplied from household to household.

Today, what was once a spiritually concrete region has become one of the most rapidly multiplying disciple-making movements in the world. And it began the same way movements always begin: Extraordinary prayer broke the strongholds.

3. Extraordinary Prayer Creates a Wave Others Can Ride

Reference: John Wesley & the First Great Awakening. Source: Journal of John Wesley, Yale University Press

Before revival ignited across England, Wesley and a small band of believers met nightly to pray for awakening. Their “Holy Club,” though small, was spiritually volcanic.

One night, Wesley recorded:

The power of God came mightily... we broke out into prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

That wave of intercession soon burst out into fields, cities, and nations. Ordinary believers suddenly felt compelled to share the gospel, disciple others, and start small groups — the 1700s version of house churches.

Wesley would later write:

God does nothing but in answer to prayer.

Extraordinary prayer created a wave that thousands would ride for decades. Movements today are no different.

4. Extraordinary Prayer Aligns Ordinary Believers With God’s Heart

Without extraordinary prayer, we risk trying to make disciples with human energy. But when we pray like Jesus taught us —

“Your kingdom come...”

“Your will be done...”

“Ask the Lord of the harvest...”

— something shifts inside us. We stop praying: “Lord, bless my plans.” And start praying: “Lord, let Your purposes run freely through me.”

Much of movement leadership is not about learning new skills. It’s about aligning with Heaven’s agenda. Extraordinary prayer does that. It changes us before it changes our communities.

5. Extraordinary Prayer Prepares People of Peace Before You Arrive

One of the most consistent movement patterns worldwide is this: Before a Disciple-Maker reaches a new neighborhood, God has already been stirring someone there.

Jesus promised this in Luke 10. Extraordinary prayer activates it.

Real Story: Kevin Greeson — South Asian Frontier Region

Source: The Camel Method interviews; 2017 DMM India Conference

Kevin tells of an area where teams prayer-walked for months. No one responded. The soil seemed dead.

Then one day, a Muslim man approached them and said:

Last night I dreamed a man in white told me you would come today. He said you would explain the truth.

That man and his family were baptized. Their relatives joined them. A discovery group formed. Then a house church. Then several more.

Movement researchers estimate that over 70% of Muslim-background believers in emerging DMMs first encountered Jesus in a dream or vision — often after someone had been praying for their village. Prayer prepares the person of peace before you ever knock on their door.

6. So What Do We Do?

If movements begin with extraordinary prayer, then every believer — not just missionaries — can be a movement catalyst.

1. Choose one people group, street, or city block to pray over daily. Name it. Own it. Carry it before God.

2. Pray the Luke 10:2 prayer every day at 10:02. “Lord, send workers into Your harvest.” It’s the only prayer Jesus commanded us to pray.

3. Prayer-walk one unreached place each week. Pray quietly. Bless homes. Ask for spiritual hunger to rise.

4. Fast once a week for spiritual breakthrough. Even a partial fast. The power is not in the size of the sacrifice — it’s in the posture of dependence.

5. Form a micro-prayer group. Two or three friends who pray for movement in a specific geography.

God is not looking for the strongest, the most trained, or the most connected. He’s looking for the most dependent.

Every movement in history — biblical and modern — began because ordinary believers prayed in extraordinary ways. Maybe the next one begins with you.

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Article 3

The Kind of Prayer That Sustains Movements

November 24, 2025

When God begins to move, it’s breathtaking. Hearts open. Conversations flow. People respond to Jesus. But every movement leader eventually discovers something sobering:

What begins in prayer must be sustained by prayer — or it slowly stops multiplying.

Some people pray before they go. But in every Disciple-Making Movement, the most fruitful catalysts pray as they go, while they go, and long after they go. Prayer doesn’t just prepare the soil... it keeps the roots alive.

Prayer is not the spark of a movement. It is the engine.

1. Movements Do Not Slow Down Because God Stops Working — They Slow Because We Stop Praying

Jesus modeled this. Even at the height of ministry activity, when crowds pressed around Him and momentum surged, “Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed” (Luke 5:16). Often. Regularly. Deliberately.

The early church followed the same pattern. After 3,000 people came to Christ in one day (Acts 2), what did they do next?

“They devoted themselves... to prayer.” (Acts 2:42)

The word devoted is critical. It means ongoing, uninterrupted, committed. They didn’t ride the wave; they fueled it.

2. When Prayer Weakens, Movements Plateau

A movement trainer in North India once told researcher David Garrison, “The moment we stop praying together, our growth slows within weeks.”

Ref: David Garrison, *A Wind in the House of Islam*, 2014

He wasn’t describing a theory — he was describing data. Their generational maps actually flattened whenever prayer rhythms weakened.

A leader in West Africa (from the New Harvest network where Shodankeh Johnson serves) noticed the same thing. He said:

When our teams pray daily, we find Persons of Peace weekly. When we pray occasionally, we find them occasionally.

— Shodankeh Johnson interview, Exponential Conference, 2020

Prayer doesn’t make God more willing. It makes us more available.

3. Sustainable Movements Build Sustainable Prayer Rhythms

Across DMMs that have grown to hundreds and thousands, the pattern is stunningly consistent:

Daily rhythms for the disciple-maker — short, simple, Scripture-soaked times of abiding prayer. Not long — but consistent.

Weekly rhythms for the team — prayer walking, listening prayer, name-by-name intercession for seekers and new believers.

Monthly rhythms for the region — fasting days, all-night prayer, city or village prayer gatherings, strategic prayer for unreached segments.

These rhythms aren’t complicated. They aren’t programmed. And here’s the key: everyone participates. Not just leaders. Not just intercessors. Everyone.

4. The Secret Ingredient: Multiplying Prayer Groups

In almost every sustained DMM, multiplying prayer groups are the hidden engine.

One example comes from East Africa. In the Kuria movement (referenced by Garrison and others), every new believer was immediately invited into a small prayer group that met multiple times a week. These groups prayed for:

the lost by name

courage to obey the Word

Persons of Peace

boldness to share their testimony

Within a few years, prayer groups multiplied faster than the first-generation churches themselves, and the movement spread across villages.

“We multiply disciples because we multiply prayer.” — Kuria movement testimony, East Africa DMM Summit, 2019

5. Sustaining Prayer Requires Sustaining Vision

When disciples stop praying, it’s rarely because they’re rebellious. It’s usually because they’ve lost a sense of urgency.

This is why Paul continually reminded the churches:

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful.” (Col. 4:2)

“Pray without ceasing.” (1 Thess. 5:17)

“Strive together with me in your prayers.” (Rom. 15:30)

When believers stop seeing lostness, they stop praying for lost people. When they stop praying for lost people, they stop finding Persons of Peace. When they stop finding Persons of Peace, they stop making disciples.

But when the vision is alive in them — prayer is alive in them.

6. A Real-World Picture: How Prayer Saved a Movement From Collapsing

A leader in Southeast Asia (reported in Jerry Trousdale’s *Miraculous Movements*, 2012) described a painful season when their movement almost stalled. Teams were discouraged. Fruit slowed. Even long-time catalysts were tired.

One trainer stopped everything for 30 days and gathered a handful of disciples for focused prayer at dawn.

They prayed simply: “Lord, give us Your heart again. Lead us to the people You are preparing.”

Within weeks: two new Persons of Peace emerged, seven baptisms followed, two new streams began, and discouraged workers found fresh courage.

Their leader later said: “We thought we had a strategy problem. It was a prayer problem.”

7. What This Means for Us Today

If we want disciples who multiply... If we want churches that multiply... If we want generations that multiply...

... we must multiply prayer with the same intentionality we multiply disciples.

Because when the prayer engine grows, the movement grows.

A Practical Call to Action

1. Start a 15-minute daily prayer rhythm — ask Jesus for one Person of Peace each day.
2. Gather two or three believers for a weekly prayer-for-the-lost meeting. Keep it simple. Pray short, faith-filled prayers.
3. Create a monthly prayer rhythm for your region — choose one day a month for fasting and prayer for your city or county.

Movements do not rise on the brilliance of strategies. They rise on the furnace of sustained, extraordinary prayer. If we keep the fire burning, God keeps the harvest coming.

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Article 4

When Ordinary People Become Extraordinary Intercessors

November 25, 2025

Most people think prayer movements start with spiritual giants. But in every Disciple-Making Movement studied, the opposite is true:

God turns ordinary believers into extraordinary intercessors — long before they feel ready.

Not pastors. Not professionals. Not experts. Just normal people who learn to pray simple, bold, faith-filled prayers... and watch God move.

1. Jesus Always Started With Ordinary People

Jesus did not choose the religious elites of Jerusalem to launch a global prayer movement. He chose fishermen, tax collectors, political outsiders.

Why? Because ordinary people are often more available, more teachable, and more dependent on God.

When the disciples asked, “Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1), they weren’t seminary graduates. They were everyday workers. But when God touched them, Acts 4 tells us the city shook.

God doesn’t use extraordinary people to launch movements. He uses ordinary people with extraordinary surrender.

2. The Most Powerful Prayer Warriors in Movements Are Usually New Believers

Story 1 — East Africa

Referenced in *Miraculous Movements*, Jerry Trousedale, 2012

New believers from Muslim-background tribes began waking up at 4:00 a.m. every morning to pray for the lost. No one told them to. They simply said, “If Jesus saved us, many more must be ready.”

Their simple obedience became the backbone of one of the fastest-growing gospel movements in the Muslim world.

Story 2 — North India

Referenced in David Garrison’s *A Wind in the House of Islam*, 2014

A first-generation widow — illiterate, newly baptized — became the most effective intercessor in her area. She couldn’t read Scripture, but she prayed Scripture she heard in Discovery groups.

Within a year, she had prayed multiple families into the Kingdom. Her home became a hub of prayer and disciple-making.

Garrison notes her story as evidence that extraordinary prayer does not require extraordinary ability — only extraordinary availability.

3. Movements Grow When Everyone Prays, Not Just a Few

One of the biggest myths in Western Christianity is that only a select group are “prayer warriors.” But in Scripture, prayer is never assigned to a small elite. Paul calls entire churches to:

“Pray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:17)

“Devote yourselves to prayer” (Col. 4:2)

“Make supplication for all the saints” (Eph. 6:18)

Everyone prays. Everyone participates. Everyone becomes part of the intercession engine. In movements, prayer is distributed, not centralized.

4. Simple Prayer → Bold Prayer → Extraordinary Prayer

This is the progression Jesus used.

Step 1 — Simple Prayer: Just pray what you know. Short. Simple. Honest.

Step 2 — Bold Prayer: Praying for lost friends by name. Praying for healing. Praying for courage. Praying for neighbors and cities.

Step 3 — Extraordinary Prayer: This is when prayer begins to shape the culture. People start praying before work. New disciples lead prayer groups. Families pray blessing over unreached segments. Churches pray for whole cities.

A spark becomes a flame. A flame becomes a movement.

5. A Modern Example: The Miracle of Watamu (Kenya)

Story shared at the No Place Left East Africa Gathering, 2020

In 2017, a Kenyan fisherman named Patrick came to Christ through a simple Bible Discovery group. He had no formal education. No training. No ministry experience.

But he started praying daily at sunrise for:

his village

the sick

his lost friends

unreached clans along the coast

Soon others joined him. Their small circle grew to dozens. People were healed. Families turned to Jesus. Discovery groups multiplied up the coastline.

One leader said: “Patrick prayed more boldly than any trained leader — because he didn’t know he wasn’t ‘qualified’ to.”

This is how God moves. He initiates prayer through the people we least expect.

6. What This Means for Us Today

Equip everyone to pray

Model simple prayer rhythms

Celebrate prayer in new believers

Expect God to use ordinary people

Invite every disciple into the prayer engine

Don't wait for the "right people" to start praying. The right people are the people you already have.

7. A Practical Call to Action

1. Ask a new believer to pray for one lost friend by name. You will be amazed how God responds to the simple prayers of the newly saved.
2. Start a 3-person prayer band. Meet for 15 minutes weekly. Pray for people of peace. Pray for obedience. Pray for new groups.
3. Share one answered prayer story each week with your team. Celebration fuels prayer. Prayer fuels courage. Courage fuels multiplication.

God is not waiting for perfect people to pray. He is waiting for willing people. And when ordinary believers begin to pray simple, bold, consistent prayers... movements ignite where no one expected them to.

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Article 5

The Kind of Prayer That Breaks Spiritual Resistance

November 26, 2025

Movements rarely slow because the harvest isn't ready. They slow because invisible resistance hardens hearts, blinds minds, exhausts leaders, and disrupts the advance of the gospel.

What pushes movements back into motion?

Extraordinary prayer that confronts spiritual opposition head-on.

Every disciple-maker, every catalyst, every movement eventually faces it. And every one of them learns the same lesson: Obedience spreads the gospel. But prayer breaks the resistance that tries to stop it.

1. Scripture Shows Us That Movements Advance Through Spiritual Resistance

Paul wrote:

“Our struggle is not against flesh and blood...” — Ephesians 6:12

Meaning: People aren't the enemy. Systems aren't the enemy. Cultures aren't the enemy. The real battle is invisible — and prayer is the weapon that moves it.

Daniel 10 — Delayed answers, unseen warfare

Daniel prayed for 21 days without breakthrough. When the angel finally arrived, he explained: “I was held back... by the prince of Persia.” Daniel's prayer was shaking things he could not see.

Acts 12 — Prison doors open because the church prayed

Peter was chained between soldiers. Escape was impossible. But Scripture says:

“The church was earnestly praying...” — Acts 12:5

And walls opened that human effort could never move.

Jesus — Prayer disarmed the enemy's plan

In Gethsemane, Jesus advanced the mission through the hardest prayer of His life. The cross was coming. The resistance was suffocating. But prayer carried Him through it.

2. Spiritual Resistance Always Intensifies Before Breakthrough

When generations reach G3 → G4, resistance rises.

When new leaders emerge, resistance rises.

When new locations open, resistance rises.

When the lost start responding in unusual numbers, resistance rises.

But here's the hope: The greatest resistance is often the sign that multiplication is about to accelerate.

3. Real-Life Movement Stories of Breakthrough Prayer

South Asia — Documented CPM Field Report (2016)

A team planting third-generation groups saw sudden resistance: Discovery groups shut down, key leaders discouraged, families pressured, oppression and fear increased.

Their response? Not retreat. Not strategy. Not analysis. They began seven nights of united intercession.

By night three, resistance broke. By night seven: 40 new households opened, two new generations launched, baptisms multiplied, leaders experienced fresh boldness.

The catalyst said: “Nothing changed in the environment. But everything changed in the spiritual atmosphere.”

Middle East — Testimony from 2021

A Muslim-background believer leading new groups began facing intense pressure from extended family. He was ready to quit.

A small band of believing friends prayed through the night — not once, but weekly for two months.

His courage returned. Entire families opened to the gospel. Several households were baptized. The movement expanded into a neighboring city.

When asked what made the difference, he said: “The prayers of the saints carried me.”

4. Signs You’re Facing Spiritual Resistance

Sudden discouragement

Confusion without cause

Unusual relational conflict

Fear rising for no reason

Loss of spiritual hunger

Distraction and busyness

Leaders burning out or withdrawing

Promising groups suddenly close

Repeated obstacles in the same area

If it feels “heavier than it should,” it may be spiritual, not circumstantial.

5. How Extraordinary Prayer Breaks Resistance

1. Pray Scriptures of authority: Ephesians 6:10–18, 2 Corinthians 10:3–5, Luke 10:19, James 4:7, 1 John 4:4.

2. Pray with fasting. Fasting is a biblical response to intense spiritual resistance (Ezra 8:23; Matthew 17:21).

3. Pray together until peace breaks in. Movements often report a moment when peace suddenly replaces heaviness.
4. Pray with bold confession of God's sovereignty, Christ's authority, the Spirit's power, the certainty of victory, and the promise of the harvest.
5. Pray in unity. The enemy's oldest strategy is division. United prayer is the enemy's worst nightmare.

6. A Framework You Can Use This Week

MONDAY – Pray Scripture Over Your Region. Declare God's authority from the Word.

WEDNESDAY – Fast One Meal for Breakthrough. Pray for open doors, boldness, and protection.

FRIDAY – One Hour of Unified Prayer With Your Team. Pray specifically for lost households, new leaders, and generational growth.

WEEKLY – Prayer-Walk One Area of Your City. Ask God to soften hearts, open households, and prepare Persons of Peace.

This rhythm changes atmospheres.

7. A Prayer for Breaking Spiritual Resistance

Lord Jesus, You are the One with all authority in heaven and on earth. Break every spiritual barrier that is resisting Your Kingdom. Disarm fear. Scatter darkness. Strengthen weary hearts. Restore boldness to Your workers. Open new households. Push back the enemy. And accelerate multiplication — in us, through us, and beyond us. Amen.

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Article 6

Praying for Disciple-Makers

November 28, 2025

Fueling the Front Lines of the Harvest

Movements do not grow because of gifted leaders. Movements grow because ordinary believers become disciple-makers — sharing Jesus, starting Discovery groups, discipling their oikos, and walking in simple obedience.

But here's the hidden truth: The most fruitful disciple-makers do not thrive on skill alone. They thrive because they are carried by prayer.

If we want to see multiplication, we must pray for those who multiply.

1. Jesus Modeled Prayer for His Disciple-Makers

Before Jesus sent the disciples into mission, He prayed for them:

“Holy Father, protect them... Sanctify them... Send them...” — John 17:11, 17–18

Jesus prayed for their: Unity, Courage, Holiness, Protection, Fruitfulness. If the first disciple-makers required that kind of prayer, so do the ones we are training today.

2. Why Disciple-Makers Need Specific Prayer

1. Disciple-makers experience more spiritual pressure — when they begin to engage lost people, the enemy pushes back harder.
2. Disciple-makers face greater temptation — isolation, busyness, distraction, and discouragement all increase.
3. Disciple-makers need supernatural courage — sharing the gospel, baptizing new believers, starting groups — none of this is easy.
4. Disciple-makers battle fatigue — obedience is rewarding but exhausting without a covering of prayer.
5. Disciple-makers must walk in discernment — they need wisdom to find Persons of Peace, identify emerging leaders, and recognize generational potential.

Disciple-makers don't just need prayer in general — they need prayer every week.

3. A Real Story — West Africa (2019 Field Report)

A multiplying movement in West Africa once traced their generational map and realized something surprising: the strongest generational streams, the most resilient leaders, and the most fruitful discovery groups... all came from one section of their network.

Why? A small group of widows met every Wednesday to pray — not for themselves, but for a list of 52 active disciple-makers. They prayed by name. They prayed Scripture. They prayed for boldness. They prayed for protection. They prayed for multiplication.

Within three years, that section of the network produced seven generations of disciples, hundreds of baptisms, and multiple new leaders.

“Their prayers carried us further than our best strategies.”

4. A Real Story — Southeast Asia

A young woman named “L” — a brand-new believer — began leading Discovery groups in her extended family. She faced fear, mockery, and pressure from older relatives.

But one older woman in the church began fasting and praying for her every Friday.

The impact? L led 14 people to Christ. Four new groups launched. One became a second-generation group. Her entire posture changed from timid to bold.

When asked what made the difference, she said: “Someone prayed me into courage.”

5. How to Pray Effectively for Disciple-Makers

A. Pray for Boldness

“Lord... enable your servants to speak Your word with great boldness.” — Acts 4:29

Pray for open mouths, open homes, and open opportunities.

B. Pray for Protection

Pray Psalm 91 over their families, Ephesians 6:10–18 over their minds, John 17:15 over their faith.

C. Pray for Discernment

They need eyes to see Persons of Peace, ready households, potential second-generation leaders, and where God is already working.

D. Pray for Endurance

“Do not grow weary in doing good...” — Galatians 6:9

Pray for fresh strength, renewed energy, spiritual joy, and unshakeable perseverance.

E. Pray for Multiplying Fruit

“I appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last.” — John 15:16

Pray for new disciples, new groups, new generations, new leaders, and new oikos networks.

6. A Practical Weekly Prayer Rhythm

Monday — Pray for Boldness: Name your disciple-makers. Pray Acts 4:29 over them.

Wednesday — Pray for Protection: Pray Psalm 91 and Ephesians 6:10–18.

Friday — Pray for Multiplying Fruit: Pray for new people to share with and new groups to form.

Sunday — Pray for Endurance and Joy: Ask God to refresh, strengthen, and renew them.

This rhythm builds intercessors, not spectators.

7. A Prayer You Can Use Today

Lord of the Harvest, strengthen every disciple-maker in our network. Give them courage to speak, wisdom to discern, protection from the enemy, joy in obedience, and fruit that multiplies to the fourth generation and beyond. Raise up many more. Let Your Kingdom advance with power through ordinary people who walk in extraordinary prayer and obedience. Amen.

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Article 7

Praying for Multiplying Leaders

November 29, 2025

Strengthening the Backbone of Movements

Movements rise or fall on the strength of their leaders. Not their titles. Not their degrees. Not their charisma. But their character, their obedience, their faithfulness, and — perhaps most overlooked — the prayer that covers them.

We train leaders. We coach leaders. We send leaders. But do we pray for leaders with the same intentionality?

1. Jesus Showed Us How to Pray for Leaders

Before Jesus sent out His leaders, He prayed for them. Before the Twelve were chosen, Jesus prayed all night (Luke 6:12). Before Peter's failure, Jesus prayed specifically for him:

“But I have prayed for you... that your faith may not fail.” — Luke 22:32

Jesus did not rely on leadership potential. He relied on prayer to shape and sustain His leaders. If Jesus prayed for His leaders by name, then so must we.

2. Why Movements Must Pray Specifically for Multiplying Leaders

1. They bear spiritual weight others do not feel — every generation behind them touches their shoulders.
2. They face increased spiritual attack — the enemy targets leaders to collapse entire streams.
3. They navigate complex ministry decisions — who to invest in, who to release, when to prune, where to expand.
4. They steward the DNA — if leaders drift, movements drift.
5. They battle fatigue and discouragement — they give, they pour out, they shepherd, but few pour back into them.

3. Real Story — Kenya (Documented in movement case studies, 2017)

A Kenyan movement that grew from 8 groups to over 1,000 in three years nearly collapsed in year four. Not persecution. Not lack of training. Not failure of gospel response. It was leader exhaustion.

Key multipliers were emotionally depleted, spiritually dry, and physically worn down. Generations stopped reproducing.

The breakthrough came when a group of women — most of them farmers and grandmothers — began meeting every Saturday to pray specifically for leaders by name.

Within six months: leaders regained courage, new leaders emerged, groups multiplied to fourth and fifth generations, several streams reignited.

“Our women prayed life back into our leaders.”

4. Real Story — Middle East (2022 CPM field report)

A young leader overseeing multiple generational streams became overwhelmed. Persecution increased. Families opposed him. He was tempted to pull back.

A mentor gathered a small band of other leaders — five men who prayed for him every morning at sunrise for 21 days.

The result: his courage returned, new households opened, baptisms increased, two more leaders emerged under his leadership, and the work expanded into a new region.

“Their prayers kept me standing when my strength was gone.”

Leaders multiply when intercessors carry them.

5. How to Pray for Multiplying Leaders

A. Pray for Their Character

Pray for humility, purity, honesty, teachability, and obedience. This protects the movement from implosion.

B. Pray for Their Clarity

Leaders need direction from the Holy Spirit. Pray they will know where to sow, who to invest in, what to release, and how to listen to God.

C. Pray for Their Courage

Fear stops multiplication faster than persecution. Pray for boldness, faith, resilience, strength, and steadfastness.

D. Pray for Their Capacity

Ask God to enlarge their hearts and sharpen their skills to care for multiple generations, coach effectively, train new believers, protect DNA, and multiply leadership streams.

E. Pray for Their Covering

Pray for their marriages, their children, their health, their emotional well-being, and their spiritual protection. Healthy leaders create healthy movements.

6. A Weekly Prayer Pattern for Your Leaders

Monday — Pray for Character: Ask God to purify and strengthen them.

Wednesday — Pray for Clarity: Ask God to guide their decisions.

Friday — Pray for Courage: Declare Joshua 1:9 and Acts 4:29 over them.

Sunday — Pray for Covering: Lift up their families, health, and protection.

This rhythm builds strength into the movement's backbone.

7. A Prayer for Multiplying Leaders

Lord of the Harvest, strengthen the leaders You have entrusted to us. Fill them with courage, wisdom, purity, and clarity. Protect their families. Guard their hearts. Renew their strength. Multiply their impact. Raise up many more leaders behind them — leaders full of Your Spirit, walking in obedience, committed to Your mission. May they carry the DNA of Jesus, and may generations follow in their footsteps. Amen.

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Article 8

Praying for the Nations

November 30, 2025

Joining God's Global Heartbeat

Every great move of God begins in a small place... but it never stays there.

Movements start in living rooms, under trees, in villages, in cafés, in prisons, in refugee camps — with a handful of disciples who take Jesus seriously. But over time, something unmistakable happens: God widens the vision. The prayer expands. The horizon grows. The nations come into view.

This is why movements pray globally — even before they grow globally. When we pray for the nations, we step into the very heartbeat of God.

Why Prayer for the Nations Matters

The story of Scripture is not the story of one people... but all peoples. From Genesis to Revelation, God reveals His desire for every tribe, every language, every people, every nation to worship Him (Revelation 7:9).

This isn't just a theological truth — it's a prayer assignment. When Jesus said, "Go and make disciples of all nations," He wasn't giving only a command. He was inviting us into His mission, His compassion, and His vision for the world.

Movements that pray this way think differently. They disciple differently. They multiply differently. They pray with global expectation, not local limitation.

Biblical Foundation: God's Heart Beats for the Nations

Genesis 12 — Through you, all nations will be blessed. Abraham's calling was missional from the start.

Psalms 67 — Let the nations be glad. A prayer asking God to bless His people so that the world would know Him.

Isaiah 49 — A light for the nations. God's servant is sent not only to restore Israel, but to reach the ends of the earth.

Matthew 24:14 — The gospel will be proclaimed to all nations. And then the end will come. Prayer fuels that proclamation.

Acts 13 — Worship, fasting, and sending. Global mission was born out of a prayer meeting.

Movement Story: When Prayer Leaps Borders

The Iranian House-Church Movement

In one of the fastest-growing disciple-making movements today, Iranian believers consistently pray not only for Iran but for the nations surrounding them — Turkey, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria.

A movement leader shared: “We pray every night that God will raise disciples from every nation around us.” Today, former refugees and migrant workers are planting simple churches across borders. Persecution scattered them — prayer mobilized them.

Reference: David Yeghnazar, Elam Ministries reports, 2019–2024.

East Africa — Prayer That Spread Across Borders

In Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and beyond, house church networks led by leaders like Aila Tasse regularly pray for unreached people groups in nearby regions.

One Kenyan leader said: “We prayed for the Somali people for years before we ever met one. When the door opened, we were already prepared.” Prayer reached the nation long before feet did.

Reference: New Generations reports and field interviews (Aila Tasse, 2018–2023).

How to Pray for the Nations — Four Strategic Ways

1. Pray for Open Doors — Paul asked specifically for this (Colossians 4:3). Doors open through prayer that never would through strategy alone.
2. Pray for Movements to Deepen and Multiply — not just decisions, not just churches — multi-generational disciples in every people group.
3. Pray for Persecuted Regions — where suffering is intense, the soil is often fertile. Movement history proves it again and again.
4. Pray for Apostolic Teams and Catalysts — workers with courage, humility, cross-cultural wisdom, and simple, reproducible tools.

A Practical Weekly Rhythm for Nations-Focused Prayer

Monday: Pray for one people group

Tuesday: Pray for one nation

Wednesday: Pray for one movement (local or global)

Thursday: Pray for open doors in new regions

Friday: Pray for persecuted believers

Saturday: Pray for sending catalysts

Sunday: Pray for global harvest and unity

Small prayers shape small lives. Global prayers shape global movements.

A Word of Encouragement

The prayers you whisper in a kitchen, a coffee shop, a car, a quiet bedroom, or a morning walk... are reaching nations you may never visit. You may not know the languages. You may not know the cultures. You may not know the people. But your prayers are shaping them.

When you pray for the nations, you join Jesus Himself — the One who said:

“Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations” (Psalm 2:8).

Somewhere today, someone is taking their first step toward Jesus because someone else — maybe you — prayed.

Call to Action

Jesus, let Your name be known in every nation. Raise up disciples in every people group. Open doors only You can open.

Your prayer may be the spark that lights the next movement across a nation.

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Article 9

Praying for the Kingdom to Come

December 1, 2025

Aligning Our Hearts With God’s Ultimate Vision

Every movement begins with prayer... but every movement also aims toward something bigger than itself.

Not just more groups, more baptisms, more disciple-makers, more regions reached — but the establishment of God’s Kingdom on earth.

When Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, He could have started anywhere. Instead, He began with a world-changing request:

“Your Kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:10)

This is not a poetic line. It is a strategic prayer — a Kingdom catalyst. And movements thrive when this becomes the way disciples pray.

The Kingdom Is Not a Concept — It’s a Reality God Wants to Establish

When Jesus preached the Gospel, He proclaimed: “The Kingdom of God has come near.” (Mark 1:15)

The Kingdom is the rule and reign of Jesus breaking into real places, real lives, real families, real cities, and real nations.

When disciples pray for the Kingdom to come:

darkness is pushed back

lost people are drawn in

strongholds crumble

spiritual hunger rises

new movements emerge

old cycles are broken

entire communities are transformed

Movements grow outward, but the Kingdom grows deep and wide.

Movement Story: When a City Experiences the Kingdom

Sierra Leone — The Kingdom Comes to Freetown

In the early years of the movement in Sierra Leone, churches were multiplying in villages around the city — but inside the capital, Freetown, spiritual resistance was deep.

So leaders began gathering weekly to pray one simple prayer: “Jesus, let Your Kingdom break in here.”

Within months: drug dealers became disciple-makers, families reconciled, violent neighborhoods opened to the gospel, house churches multiplied, dozens of new leaders emerged.

What changed? The King’s rule broke through.

Source: Shodankeh Johnson, interviews at Exponential (2019–2020)

Biblical Patterns: When the Kingdom Comes, Everything Shifts

1. Brokenness turns to healing — Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom and healed every disease (Matthew 4:23–24).
 2. Captives find freedom — “The Kingdom has come upon you” — and demons were cast out (Matthew 12:28).
 3. The poor receive hope — Jesus said the Kingdom belongs to them (Luke 6:20).
 4. Renewal multiplies — Kingdom seed grows 30-, 60-, 100-fold (Mark 4:20).
 5. God’s will becomes visible — what is normal in heaven becomes transformational on earth.
- Kingdom prayer is not about escaping earth — it’s about transforming it.

How to Pray for the Kingdom to Come in Your Context

1. Pray for God’s rule to replace human control. Movements thrive when Jesus leads, not systems.
2. Pray for the Kingdom to break into families first. Most movements begin with households (Acts 16:31–34).
3. Pray for Kingdom breakthrough among the lost. Ask God to open hearts like in Acts 16:14.
4. Pray for Kingdom values to reshape your disciple-making: humility, obedience, compassion, sacrifice, multiplication.
5. Pray for injustice to be pushed back. Where the Kingdom comes, oppression weakens.
6. Pray for the King to be revealed. More than strategy. More than multiplication. More than movement mechanics. Jesus Himself is the center of the Kingdom.

A Simple Kingdom Prayer Rhythm You Can Use Every Day

“Jesus, let Your Kingdom come in my heart today.”

“Let Your Kingdom come in my family.”

“Let Your Kingdom come among the lost around me.”

“Let Your Kingdom come in our movement.”

“Let Your Kingdom come in our city, state, and nation.”

“Let Your Kingdom come among the unreached.”

That prayer reshapes priorities, renews passion, and aligns every disciple with God’s global story.

A Final Encouragement

Every time you pray “Your Kingdom come,” you join the greatest prayer movement in history — one that spans continents, generations, and cultures.

Movements may begin with obedience... but they are sustained with Kingdom vision.

Your prayer today is not small. It echoes in cities you’ve never walked, villages you’ve never visited, and nations you may never see.

When you pray for the Kingdom to come, you are pulling the future into the present.

Call to Action

“Jesus, let Your Kingdom break into my world today — and let it spread further than I could ever imagine.”

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Article 10

The Power of 5×5×5 Prayer Movements

December 2, 2025

How Generational Prayer Ignites Generational Disciple-Making

Before Movements Multiply, Prayer Multiplies

Every movement leader eventually discovers the same truth: Before disciples multiply, prayer multiplies. Before a Disciple-Making Movement begins, a prayer movement begins.

Not a one-time prayer meeting. Not a new church program. But multiplying groups of prayer — generations deep.

One of the simplest and most powerful ways to build that kind of movement is through a 5×5×5 Prayer Movement:

5 people

1 hour per week

Each of the 5 recruits their own group of 5

Each new group recruits another group of 5

A prayer movement built on generational multiplication, mirroring the DNA of disciple-making itself.

1. Why Movements Begin With Generational Prayer

Throughout Scripture and history, God moves after His people multiply prayer:

The Upper Room prayed → 3,000 new disciples

Antioch prayed and fasted → Apostolic Bands were sent for “the work”

Moravians prayed 24/7 → 300 missionaries launched

Korean churches prayed → a national spiritual awakening

Modern DMMs prayed → generational disciples emerged

The pattern never changes: Where prayer multiplies, disciples multiply. Where prayer does not multiply, movements stall.

2. How the 5×5×5 Prayer Model Works

Step 1 — Gather a group of 5 people

Commit together: “We will pray one hour per week for the lost, for workers, and for God’s Kingdom to multiply.” Meet anywhere: Home, Zoom, WhatsApp, Park, Church classroom.

Step 2 — Each of the 5 recruits their own group of 5

This is where prayer becomes a movement. Each asks: “Would you pray with me for one hour a week — and start your own group of five?”

Step 3 — Each new group repeats the multiplication

Every new group meets weekly, prays intentionally, and recruits a new generation of 5. This is generational prayer — the seedbed of generational disciple-making.

3. What Generational Prayer Looks Like

Starting with just one group of 5:

Generation 0: 5 people

Generation 1: 25 people

Generation 2: 125 people

Generation 3: 625 people

Generation 4: 3,125 people

Generation 5: 15,625 people praying every week

This is how ordinary people become a regional force of intercession — softening cities, nations, families, and unreached people groups.

Why This Model Works Everywhere

Simple — anyone can start a group

Reproducible — easy to teach, easy to multiply

Spiritual — sustained, focused prayer

Obedience-based — every member multiplies

Generational — like DMMs, it grows layer by layer

And spiritually it does five powerful things:

Plows hard spiritual ground

Raises up new workers (Luke 10:2)

Reveals Persons of Peace

Builds deep unity

Creates unstoppable momentum

Once prayer groups reach four or five generations, it becomes a self-sustaining movement.

Real Stories Illustrating the Power of Multiplying Prayer

Sierra Leone (Shodankeh Johnson) — Multiplying prayer groups preceded multiplying churches. Only after intercession spread did the movement explode.

Northern India (Bhojpuri Movement) — Villages were covered in prayer generations deep before the first DBS groups formed. Today: one of the world's largest modern discipleship movements.

East Africa (Aila Tasse) — Every new region begins with simple, multiplying prayer groups. Prayer softens the soil; discipleship follows.

Movements don't start with activity. Movements start with multiplying prayer.

How to Start a 5×5×5 Prayer Movement This Week

1. Start your first group of five. Choose one hour. Commit.
2. Share a simple, bold vision: “We want to see five generations of prayer groups.”
3. Give every member the same assignment: recruit your five within one week.

4. Track the movement with a spreadsheet, WhatsApp list, or generational map.
5. Celebrate every new group. Multiplication accelerates where stories flow.
6. Pray for specific people, neighborhoods, cities, and nations. Prayer is the plow for disciple-making.

A 5×5×5 generational prayer movement is one of the simplest and most powerful ways to ignite a Disciple-Making Movement — because prayer always multiplies before disciples do.

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About the Author

Terry Ruff is a DMM Catalyst and Zúme Trainer/Coach with over 50 years of ministry experience. He served for more than 25 years in two US mega-churches before answering the call to northern Ghana, where he and his wife Amy lived for 14 years catalyzing a Disciple-Making Movement that grew to over 3,000 Discovery Bible Study groups and approximately 20,000 participants — with zero cost, no buildings, no salaries, and no programs.

Now based in the United States, Terry coaches and trains disciple-makers worldwide through Zúme training classes, peer mentoring coaching circles, and one-on-one discipleship relationships spanning more than 37 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Pacific.

Terry's conviction: "In 50+ years of ministry, I've never been involved in something so fruitful."

To learn more or join a Zúme coaching class, visit: zume.training

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