

PRAYER SISTERS

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Note from founder... Kathy Groom

The last time my Prayer Sisters prayed together, we prayed ferociously for a wounded kid whose life was in danger. Only we didn't know it was.

You see, that mama wasn't able to join us that day. Later in the week I shared with our friend what we'd prayed—that we'd sensed danger in her loved one's life and stood against it in the name of Jesus. Instantly her tears welled up and she whispered, "But I didn't reveal that to anybody!"

No she didn't. But the Holy Spirit did. He told the Prayer Sisters so we could intercede for one of our own. Remarkable.

This story represents two of the things I love most about Prayer Sisters. First, it represents the constant, stable, relentless force of a group of committed praying friends. I mean, can you imagine the bulldog power of a group of mamas fighting together when one of their kiddos is threatened?!

And second, this experience shows how prayer is REAL, because we have a faithful, loving, interactive God.

Now, usually we share prayer requests ahead of time. We send lengthy emails with updates so we don't waste too much time chatting during our prayer times. I love that! In a

safe place, I can share difficult prayer requests with trusted friends, and I know they will pray. Whether I'm able to pray with them or not.

And for those times when all is not revealed, we have the most trusted Friend showing us just what to pray. There is something incredibly comforting about that.

At Prayer Sisters Intl., we long for every woman to have this kind of constant prayer support. Please pray with us, and spread the word!

Praying with you,

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you. —

Psalm 33:20-22

Notice how this scripture is from a group perspective? As in, "WE wait... and WE trust..." It's somehow easier when we're not alone!

*"...they raised their voices **together** in prayer to God." —Acts 4:24 (emphasis added)*

Exciting opportunities with Prayer Sisters International...

These are exciting times at PSI! God has placed a vital message on our hearts to share the WHY of Prayer Sisters—the incredible benefits of supportive friendships, deepened prayers, transformed lives. We are absolutely passionate about helping women connect with God and one another at the heart level through prayer and friendship, and we are eager to share Prayer Sisters with as many women as we can.

And you can help us!

Starting this fall we will begin contacting churches and organizations throughout America and asking them to consider Prayer Sisters. If you know of churches you'd like us to contact, let us know. We will provide them with ministry leader's kits packed with helpful information. And we'll tell them you sent us!

Contact us at info@prayersisters.org

Note from PSI Board of Directors:

One of our board members, Pat Mason, will be contacting you soon! We are eager to connect with you and learn how we can better help you. If you don't hear from us, please give us a jingle at 303.840.3602. We don't want to miss anyone!

New: Just in time for Christmas! Stocking stuffers! (See page 3 for details)

PRAYER SISTERS®

Prayer Sisters Intl (PSI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that helps women connect with God and one another at the heart level through prayer and friendship.

www.PrayerSisters.org

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Sister Story...

Erica had been praying for Christian women to connect with, but when she heard about Prayer Sisters she wasn't eager to sign up.

"I was so broken and bruised and thought these awesome women really have it together. What could I possibly bring to this group besides heartache, disappointment and anger?" she thought. No one knew what Erica was feeling on the inside. "I had gotten really good at wearing my mask."

But the moment Erica entered her first PS prayer time, she felt an instant connection. Her new Prayer Sisters told her they had been praying that the empty chair at the table would someday be filled by her.

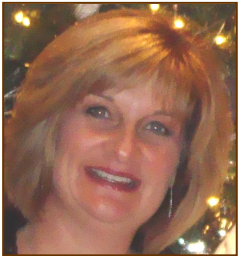
It wasn't long before Erica ditched her mask. "I think of Prayer Sisters like this, Prayer Sisters is where your mask comes off. You're able to exhale and just be you. Exhale all the negative thoughts, disappointments and hurts. Then inhale and be filled up with God's love, peace and direction for our lives."

Months later, Erica is experiencing a new joy—in her relationship with God and as leader of a brand-new Prayer Sisters group. She says, "Since I have been a part of a PS group God has drawn closer to me. I long for other women to know the God I love. I have found not only joy but the power of regular prayer warriors and friends. In short, my Prayer Sisters lift me up."

(To read the rest of Erica's story, go to www.prayersisters.org/
Go to 'resources' and then 'stories'.

Let us hear from you! How have we helped?
How can we better meet your needs?
We'd love to hear your stories.
Contact us at Kathy@prayersisters.org.

For Ministry Leaders... by Karla Duckworth



As a Prayer Sister leader, you will experience times that a "coaching" style is very effective. Everyone needs a hug, a pat on the back, and an encouraging "Atta Girl!" Part of our responsibility as leaders may require a pep talk from God's word.

Sometimes in my group of praying women, one of us becomes really discouraged because of all the "stuff" in our life. The stresses can seem impossible to cope with and it seems that we are not effective in any area of our lives. There are issues with our soon to be adult children, our tired husbands... our aging parents... financial problems. And our safe place, our Prayer Sister regular meeting, is the perfect setting to have a "melt down" of sorts.

Jesus used coaching style to respond to the disciples' disillusionment when He replied to their questions:

...Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, "Move from here to there" and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

-Matthew 17:20

(excerpt from *The Servant Leader*, by Ken Blanchard & Phil Hodges)

Often when this happens, our natural tendency is to try to ignore or play down the crisis, or give advice on how to solve it, but experience has taught us that putting aside our agenda and surrounding this sister with love and encouragement is the best thing! When one woman has the chance to open up and let everything out, the burdens are shared. As a leader, be the one who models the response... What does God's word say? Let's stop and pray about this now. Let's believe ... really believe what his word says! Nothing will be impossible if we have faith.

Contributions...

Thank you for all of your contributions! With your help, we have shipped resources to Prayer Sisters in India, Grenada, Chile, Fiji, and China, as well as several locations within the United States!

Together we can help women around the world connect with God and one another at the heart level.



With every tax-deductible \$10 donation we receive, we are able to send a complimentary set of books to women who would not otherwise be able to afford our resources. Your help is greatly appreciated! Contributions can be made online at www.prayersisters.org.

PSI Prayer Partners...

Our Prayer Partners are the most highly valued members of our ministry. We believe in the importance and the power of prayer!

If you are interested in becoming a PSI Prayer Partner, please contact us at Royce@prayersisters.org

Sisterly Advice...



On Friendship

To create a "safe" place where we can share intimate and honest prayer requests, we need to be able to trust one another. It takes time, quite honestly, for that trust to build. Discuss openly, and often if necessary, the importance of confidentiality and decide together whether to share prayer requests with husbands. Start with small steps and watch your trust grow!

On Prayer

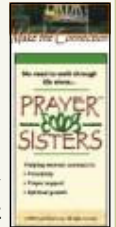
As you pray through the requests of your Prayer Sisters, listen intently to the Holy Spirit for direction on what to pray. Too often we give God suggestions on how we'd like to see prayers answered, rather than trusting in his sovereignty to work it all out the very best way. Praying in surrender for God's will, not ours, frees us from having to solve all the problems in our heads before we pray them. Whew. That's a relief!

On Spiritual Growth

The Handbook guidelines are suggestions—NOT legalistic rules. Feel free to tailor your group to your own style and follow whichever PSI guidelines you choose. We don't mind—really! Just be sure to keep the Truth of God as your foundation and your number one guideline.

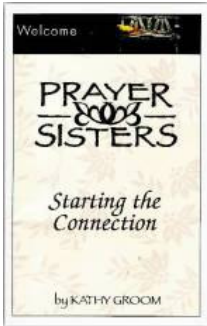
For Ministry Leaders—

This colorful tri-fold brochure will help you introduce Prayer Sisters to your organization. We've reserved a space on this informative flyer for your own contact information. Contact us at resources@prayersisters.org to order a bundle. Together we can help women connect!



Prayer Sisters Resources...

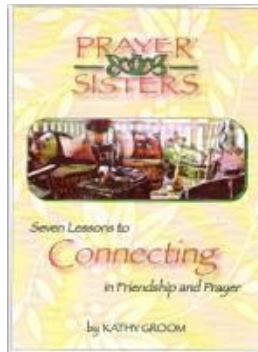
The Prayer Sisters books are valuable resources for each Prayer Sister. If you haven't had a chance to get your copies yet, order them today!



Starting the Connection

The Prayer Sisters handbook, **Starting the Connection**, is the perfect tool for each Prayer Sister. This small book gives valuable information on what it means to be a Prayer Sister, suggestions on how to successfully manage your get-togethers, helpful forms, tons of Sisterly Advice and more.

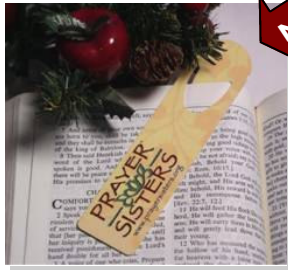
Only \$6.00 each
(plus shipping and handling)



Connecting

The group guide, **Connecting: Seven Lessons to Connecting in Friendship and Prayer**, is comprised of powerful stories, personal challenges and group checkup questions as well as a place to journal prayer requests and answers.

Only \$7.00 each
(plus shipping and handling)



Colorful, sturdy, metal Prayer Sisters bookmarks are now available! Great small gifts and stocking stuffers for friends and family. What greater gift can we give our loved ones than to let them know we are praying for them!

\$3.50/each or \$15.00 for five!
(Plus shipping and handling)

You can read old newsletters online! Just go to www.prayersisters.org resources and click on "newsletters." All the past issues are archived there for you!

Prayer Sisters Mugs!

Our cheerful mugs will make a fabulous Christmas gift. For added fun, fill them with assorted tea bags, flavored coffee stirrers or homemade hot cocoa mix. Sure to be a welcome gift!

Only \$10 each (plus shipping and handling)

To place your order, visit our online store at www.prayersisters.org or contact us at resources@prayersisters.org.



Front: Prayer Sisters Logo, Back: "...and they raised their voices together to God. -Acts 4:24"