**Conversational Prayer**

Begin with prayer rather than prayer requests.

Don’t be afraid of silence: don’t be afraid of speaking up

Prayer involves listening as well as talking, so silent time is very important.

Speak thoughts with the group that you feel might be from God. Do so with humility

Address the group if you are speaking to them. (Example: “Brothers and sisters, I…Address the Lord if you are speaking to Him. (Example: “Lord, we… Your eyes may be opened or closed. It works well if your eyes are open when someone addresses the group and closed when someone address God. Either way is okay, so don’t be anxious about whether eyes are opened or closed.

**KEEP INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS SHORT!**

Give others the chance to share in praying over the topic that is raised. You can pray several times over the same topic interchangeably with the rest of the group, but do not pray lengthy prayers alone.

Build on the prayers of other. (Example: Someone has prayed for a sick individual and you might say, “And Lord we also pray for their family…

Be open to the leading of God’s Holy Spirit as you pray.

Allow God to speak through His word in the Bible. Share passages, as you feel led by God

Words of agreement are welcomed and encouraged. (Example: “Yes Lord!”)

Pray over one issue until it is prayed through. After a pause, anyone may bring up a new topic in prayer.

Singing praise songs is part of prayer. Start them at any appropriate time. Simply start singing. (Example: “I love you Lord and I lift my voice…”) Others may join in the song, or you may complete the song alone if no one else knows it. Everyone should sing if the song is known.

Feel free to move about. If you need to leave for a moment during prayer, exit and re-enter quietly. When the prayer time seems to come to an end, the leader or someone else can close with a short prayer. (Example: “Lord, thank You for our time with you. Help us to live according to what you have shown us. In Jesus Name we pray. Amen.”)