# The Church’s Personality

To be able to take the necessary steps to become a powerful house of prayer, you need to determine where you are as a church and thus what type of church you are. A simple tool for such an evaluation follows. Other methods could be used for such an evaluation, but for our purposes we have developed a series of thirty questions divided under the headings of will and skill, designed to pinpoint a church’s weaknesses and strengths. Take a few minutes to answer each question, realising that the more honest you are in your evaluation, the sharper the needs and directions can be focused.

## Evaluating Your Church’s Will

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Yes** | **No** |
| * More than 25% of our membership is involved in some form of church sponsored prayer activity each week (small group, missions, early morning).
 | □ | □ |
| * Prayer is frequently mentioned from the pulpit as a solution to the problem under consideration.
 | □ | □ |
| * Staff/leadership have regularly scheduled prayer times (could be part of another meeting) to pray for each other, church, and congregational needs.
 | □ | □ |
| * Our church has prayer as a vital ingredient for outreach.
 | □ | □ |
| * An emergency prayer chain is in place.
 | □ | □ |
| * The pastor and key leadership are committed to putting prayer in a visible place in all church ministries.
 | □ | □ |
| * There are various prayer opportunities other than the traditional mid-week prayer meeting.
 | □ | □ |
| * We have a prayer team in place that prays during the worship service.
 | □ | □ |
| * People are praying for each other at unscheduled times.
 | □ | □ |
| * We have a paid staff position for our prayer ministry.
 | □ | □ |
| * Often the entire congregation has an opportunity to pray for others during the church service.
 | □ | □ |
| * Overall, when there is a major decision to be made, prayer is a key ingredient to the process.
 | □ | □ |
| * We have a prayer room, which is used frequently.
 | □ | □ |
| * We have a way of letting people know about answered prayer.
 | □ | □ |

## Evaluating Your Church’s Skill

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Yes** | **No** |
| * The Church has a volunteer/staff prayer co-ordinator who can model various prayer skills.
 | □ | □ |
| * We have one or more persons who are capable of dealing with people under spiritual attack.
 | □ | □ |
| * We have a seminar or some form of continuing education on prayer in the past year.
 | □ | □ |
| * There is a systematic way of compiling prayer requests and praying for them.
 | □ | □ |
| * Pastor(s) has (have) a group of prayer partners committed to covering him (them) and their family in prayer.
 | □ | □ |
| * Our church has identified and is using a least one person with a heart for intercession.
 | □ | □ |
| * Our people are not afraid to use the term “spiritual warfare” to identify the attacks of the enemy on the ministry and individuals.
 | □ | □ |
| * We offer opportunities for people to pray with staff or a prayer team at the conclusion of services.
 | □ | □ |
| * Our members regularly pray with other believers of other congregations too.
 | □ | □ |
| * We have committed prayer warriors in our congregation who are providing a real prayer covering for all church ministries.
 | □ | □ |
| * Prayer is seen as the first step in the solution to any problem either within the church or on a personal basis.
 | □ | □ |
| * Our church regularly sponsors prayer opportunities and prayer teachings for believers from the community.
 | □ | □ |
| * Teaching articles on prayer appear regularly in our church newsletter.
 | □ | □ |
| * Our people are excited about prayer and what they are seeing God do in their lives as a result of prayer.
 | □ | □ |
| * Our members know and are comfortable using several different styles of praying
 | □ | □ |

Count up only the yes answers and put the number in the blanks below.

Will ……………………. Skill ……………………….

**Start-Up Ministries:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Staff Prayer
 | * Prayer Cards
 |
| * Prayer Calendar
 | * Prayer List for Special Needs
 |
| * General Prayer Chain
 | * Day of Prayer Activities
 |
| * Praying Leaders
 | * Prayer in the Worship Service
 |
| * Teaching Children to Pray
 | * Prayer Triplets
 |

**Intermediate Ministries**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Prayer Co-ordinator
 | * Prayer Tape Ministry
 |
| * Prayer Vigil
 | * Prayer Retreat or Seminar
 |
| * Open Prayer Meeting
 | * Prayer Small Groups
 |
| * Membership Intercession Ministry
 | * Prayer Walking
 |
| * Prayer Breakfast
 | * Prayer Emphasis Week or Month
 |
| * Prayer Care Programme
 | * Prayer Chapel
 |
| * Family Prayer
 | * Prayer Cells
 |
| * Pastor’s Prayer Support Groups
 | * The Prayer Room
 |
| * Church Prayer Support Groups
 | * Prayer Groups for World Missions
 |

**Advanced Ministries**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Prayer Team Ministry
 | * Ministry of Intercession
 |
| * Healing Prayer Ministry
 | * Prayer Partnership Ministry
 |
| * Intercessory Support Ministry
 | * Prayer Telephone Ministry
 |
| * Concert of Prayer
 | * School of Prayer
 |
| * House of Prayer
 | * The School of Prayer
 |
| * Prayer Guides
 | * Senior Intercessors
 |