

What is it really like to be a Prayer Pastor at Southampton Street Pastors?

Just to set the scene Prayer Pastors remain at base (our office building on the night time) and received phone calls from Street Pastors on the Streets about the people they encounter and the circumstances to request prayer. The prayer team pray and, as soon as the street pastor team can, they will ring the prayer team again to give updates. Below are some events that have occurred that are fairly typical and regular experiences for both the street pastors and prayer pastors :

Event 1

Phone call in at 02.45 from the street pastor team:

“We are outside Popworld. We are talking with a man from London whose phone and wallet have been stolen and all his friends have gone off. He is supposed to be going back to Portsmouth with them. He says that he has cousins in Shirley and if he could get there he would be ok. However, he can’t remember any contact numbers or even if the cousins would be willing to give him money to pay for a taxi. We are going to walk with him in the general direction that he thinks his friends have gone.”

Prayer Team: “Thank you, we will be praying for God to offer a solution”

The Prayer Team pray: “Lord, you see all things and you love this man who has found himself in these difficult circumstances. We pray for the team to bump into his friends or someone he knows to offer a solution, a solution that he would know is from you Lord.”

Phone call in at 03.02 from the street pastor team:

“We are now witnessing a second situation. We have been walking with him and a taxi driver has just pulled over and asked us if we knew where any police were as he wants his current passenger to get out of his taxi. Initially the passenger was refusing but after some heated discussion, the passenger has been persuaded to get out of the taxi but he is still angry at the driver. The taxi has now driven off. We need prayer for this too, particularly that the man from the taxi calms down”

Prayer Team: “Thank you, we will be praying for God to offer a solution”

The Prayer Team pray: “Lord God we ask for calm in this situation, we ask that the man from the taxi is willing to listen and see that the street pastors are there to help. Give the street pastors the wisdom to know what to do and say. Holy Spirit be in this situation and speak to all involved”

Phone call in at 03.18 from the street pastor team:

“You would not believe what just happened. As the ejected taxi passenger was calming down the man that’s lost his friends looked at him and says, “I know this man, I was at school with him”. This was confirmed by the taxi passenger. We chatted to the two of them and asked whether they could help each other. The taxi passenger said, “Yes, he can come home with me. We can get another taxi.” An incredible answer to prayer! Not only did it provide a solution for the first man but also calmed the taxi passenger down as it gave him a new focus rather than continuing to be angry with the taxi driver. God is good.

Event 2

Phone call in at 00.50 from the street pastor team:

“We are in Hoglands Park. We have just met a woman very unsteady and wobbling all over the place. A few moments ago we stopped her falling into the road. We have sat her down and we are trying to talk to her and have offered her water.

Prayer Team: "Thank you, we will be praying for her"

The Prayer Team pray: "Lord, you love this lady, she is your daughter, and you know everything about her. Let the effect of any substance in her system subside and let her start to engage with the street pastors. Let their tender care reflect you Lord so she will know you love her and that you have a plan for her life"

Phone call in at 00.54 from one of the street pastors:

"The lady is now talking to us and says she often drinks alone at home. Says she has only been drinking beer at London Pub but drinking since 7pm. She wants to go into the navy and has a medical soon"

Prayer Team: "Thank you, we will be praying she continues to engage "

The Prayer Team pray: "Lord, thank you that you have given this lady a clear path for her future. May all the desires of her heart and the plan you have for her come to pass. Protect her Lord, and let her draw closer to you and know you are her refuge and in you she can find strength."

Phone call in at 00.58 from the street pastor team:

"The lady has asked us to pray with her and we offered her a New Testament, which she was happy to take. The lady says she is Catholic and had decided to give up on God since her grandmother's death 3 months ago but having met us tonight is now thinking differently."