

# 24-7 prayer

## praying for your community

### AIM

Here are some ideas for those wanting to pray for their local community during the 24-7 prayer event.

### INTRODUCTION

There are many different ways in which we can pray for our local community. Those suggested here are just a starting point. Please add to and alter them according to your situation.

### STRUCTURE

- Cut out some good and bad news stories about your area from the local newspaper
- Write a list of the buildings around your church – or draw a diagram of your building and your neighbours –and put it on a large sheet of paper in the place where you'll be praying
- Visit the neighbours around your church, or the other people who use your building, and ask them for any prayer requests they may have
- Ask if anyone in the congregation with local links in education, health, social services or other ways of helping people can suggest live issues your church could pray about
- Invite those in your church to name one worry they have about their community and one hope they have for its future
- Collect these on different coloured post-it notes and display them during your 24-7 prayer time so people can pray for these concerns

### Prayer

You may want to conclude your time of prayer with the Vision4life prayer:

#### A Vision4Life prayer

Life-giving God, creator of all,  
you spoke the world into being  
and saw that it was good.  
Help us to see the world through your eyes –  
messy yet full of potential,  
incomplete yet perfect in parts.  
When our view is distorted  
may we refocus it through your lens of love.  
**Generous God,  
give us vision for life.**

Jesus Christ, saviour of all,  
you live alongside us and show us  
life in all its fullness.

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Help us to look with you for hidden possibilities – tiny mustard seeds of new growth, grains of yeast that activate change.

As we identify signs of hope give us your energy to keep searching for more.

**Generous God,  
give us vision for life.**

God, the Holy Spirit, new life of all,  
you blow away our excuses  
and overcome our defensiveness.

Help us to keep in tune with your promptings – glimpses of what could be,  
hints of new outcomes we didn't expect.

**Generous God,  
give us vision for life.**

### EVALUATION

Please try to answer these questions for yourself and for others who will use this material:

1. What was the most helpful thing?
2. What was the least helpful thing?
3. What would you like to try now?

### THE NEXT STEP

There are more resources related to the 24-7 prayer event on the website as well as links to help you find more.

### Acknowledgements

This material was produced for Vision4life by Kirsty Thorpe.

### HOW TO FEEDBACK TO VISION4LIFE?

If you wish to offer any feedback – brickbats and bouquets are equally welcome! – you can do so in various ways.

You can email the Vision4Life steering group about general or website V4L issues via the website or at [admin@vision4life.org.uk](mailto:admin@vision4life.org.uk)

If you have comments and particularly contributions to the prayer year, you can email the V4L prayer year coordinator via [prayer@vision4life.org.uk](mailto:prayer@vision4life.org.uk)

If you want to make contributions or ask questions about other V4L years you can email:

Year 3 – Transformed for Evangelism: [evangelism@vision4life.org.uk](mailto:evangelism@vision4life.org.uk)