

PARTICIPANTS GUIDE

Welcome: Participants Guide

We want to thank you for taking the time to consider participating with the 40 Days of Love.

Goal of this Initiative: In short, our goal during the 40 Days of Love is to see tens of thousands of congregations participate from across the United States and around the world. We hope to have 10 million Christ-Followers pray for, love on, and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with at least 10 people in their sphere of influence. We have designed a 40 Days of Love "Prayer, Care, Share Guide" that will activate the members of our congregations to proactively love on those that God has placed around them. This initiative has the potential of transforming over 100 million lives.

Our long-term desire is that the 40 Days of Love will be used by God to launch a **Prayer, Care, Share Lifestyle** in Every Congregation, Every Community, Every Sphere of Influence, Every Ethnicity, Every Denomination and Every Generation in Every Nation. Ultimately meaning that every man, woman, and child will have repeated opportunities to see, hear and respond to the Gospel.

Purpose of the Participants Guide: The purpose of this guide is to provide you with a prayer-based guide to determine how God desires you to implement the 40 Days of Love in your area. There is no set way to utilize the 40 Days of Love. We trust that as you take the time to pray through this guide, God's Spirit will give you wisdom on the focus, scope and details that are specific to you and that will result in the greatest advancement of His Kingdom.

Let us know if you have any questions or need anything further from us. God bless you!

Yours in Christ,

40 Days of Love Steering Committee

Email: Office@40DaysofLove.net

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1. Forming an Initial Implementation Team

Even at the outset, we would encourage you to form a team of at least 2-3 people who can process through what the 40 Days of Love could look like in your sphere of influence. We recommend starting this team with one-on-one meetings and other forms of personal correspondence in order to get at least a few people interested prior to setting up a larger meeting.

Ask God for the initial names of those He wants you to involve. If you already have an existing network in place He may lead you to take this to others there.

time to pray about this and write down the names of those He places on your heart:			

Statistically speaking, one-on-one meetings are the most successful. So if there are a few key people that God places on your heart to get onboard early on, you may consider meeting with them one-on-one prior to hosting a larger vision casting meeting. Once you have a beginning team of at least 1-2 others (preferably no more than 10-12), we would encourage you to set a time to meet together and pray through the rest of this guide. This will help give you a fuller corporate picture of what God desires to do in and through the 40 Days. We trust that it will be a wonderful adventure co-laboring with your other brothers and sisters in Christ during this time!

Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. Matthew 18:19

2. God's Desired Outcome - Focus

Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

In order to know what specific steps will be necessary in order to see the 40 Days of Love become everything that God desires for it to be in your sphere of influence, it is necessary to first understand what is on His heart. What is the desired outcome that He has for you and your area during the 40 Days of Love? Only when we have seen His end goal, can we begin to understand the steps that will be necessary to get there.

Testimony: In the state of Florida, we saw God use the 40 Days of Love in a diversity of spheres of influence. From the police department, to high schools, to prisons, to neighborhoods to airports. Reaching college students to touching the lives of internationals living and visiting the state. Take some time to read through the testimony document that was compiled and allow the Holy Spirit to stir your faith to believe for specific outreaches to various sectors of life in your community: www.40daysoflove.net/wp-content/PDF/40DaysofLove_Testimonies.pdf

A. What spheres of influence (affinity groups) would God have you focus on engaging with the 40 Days? (Allow your implementation team to circle any affinity groups that God places on their hearts.)

• APOLOGETICS	 DOMESTIC SHORT TERM MISSIONS 	HISPANIC OUTREACH
• ARTS / ENTERTAINMENT	• EDUCATION / PRE K-12	• INTERNET
• CHILDREN	• EDUCATION / COLLECTE 0	• MARRIAGE/ FAMILY
CHURCH PLANTING	EDUCATION / COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIESEMERGING GENERATIONS	• MEDIA
• CITY MOVEMENTS		• MEN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / JUSTICE	 ETHNIC / DIASPORA / INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS 	MISSIONS MOBILIZATION
• COMPASSION	• EVANGELISM / LOCAL CHURCHES	• NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH
• CREATION CARE	• FOSTER CARE / ADOPTION	• ORALITY
• DENOMINATIONS	• GOVERNMEN'T	• PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
DISCIPLE MAKING	• HEALTHCARE	• PRAYER NETWORKS

RECOVERY / REHABILITATION RESCUE MISSIONS SCRIPTURE & LITERATURE (Write anything further related to	 SPORTS / ATHLETICS TECHNOLOGY WOMEN why you circled these particular items.) 	WORKPLACE YOUTH MINISTRIES
B. What has God been place speaking to you about?)	ing on your heart personally? (What inju	ustice or need has God been
	or your community/sphere of influence art. List areas that are in need of His int	
	o use the 40 Days of Love in your area t unity/sphere of influence?	to begin to address some of

SENIORS

• PRISON MINISTRY

3. Scope

When we talk about "scope" we are talking about seeking to determine how many ministries/believers that God desires to be involved. Sometime we can have a tendency to set goals that seem humanly attainable prior to asking God what is on His heart and how many He desires to reach out to.

Testimony: Peter lives on the West coast of Florida. He learned about the 40 Days of Love and realized that in his area no one else had heard about it. Through prayer and obedience to the promptings of God's Spirit, Peter took the Vision Letters and Prayer, Care, Share Guides door-to-door to other ministries in his area. By the time the 40 Days of Love launched, God had used Peter to reach out to 130+congregations and to distribute more than 3,600 Prayer, Care, Share Guides. With each guide being an opportunity for 10 or more people to be prayed for, cared for and shared the Gospel with, Peter's faith led to an estimated 36,000 people being impacted for Christ!

Take some time right now and wait on Him related to the following questions:

implementation team that can help to get the word out even further.

A. How many congregations/ministries do You desire to be involved?
B. How many Prayer, Care, Share Guides should we plan to distribute?
C. What type of involvement should we aim for from different denominations, ethnicities, generations (children, youth, college, adults, seniors)?
D. Write down any additional things that God places on your heart in prayer:
Once you have an idea of God's desired outcome and scope, you can begin to form a wider

4. Holding Vision Casting Meetings

We have seen the 40 Days of Love expand from just a few people in an area, to reaching thousands simply through a single vision casting meeting with the right people at the table. Once the scope, focus and an initial team are in place, we would encourage you to gather the people God has placed on your heart to share this with. Often times it helps to have food available with a breakfast/lunch/dinner or at least providing snacks and drinks.

We recommend printing copies of the following resources for everyone that you are sharing the 40 Days of Love with, so that you can hand these out freely to those you are reaching out to:

- 1. Pastors/Leaders Vision Letter
- 2. Commitment Card
- 3. Prayer, Care, Share Guides Tri-fold

We would also encourage you to get familiar with the Promotional Materials on the Website: www.40daysoflove.net/promo materials

If you need the Word version of any of these documents simply get in touch with us at office@40DaysofLove.net and we will seek to get that to you.

Here is a Sample Outline of a Vision Casting Presentation to Ministry Leaders

(Feel free to add or subtract as God's Spirit leads)

- 1. Share specifically about the "Desired Outcome" that God has placed on your heart as you have prayed about how He would have you use the 40 Days of Love in your area. You may also share about the state of the nation and the desperate need for the Body of Christ to embrace a lifestyle of agape love in the midst of all that is unfolding around us. Lift up the value of a Prayer, Care, Share lifestyle. (3-5 min.)
- 2. Consider sharing 1 or 2 of the real-world testimonies that have taken place during the 40 Days of Love (Link to Testimony Document: http://www.40daysoflove.net/wp-content/PDF/40DaysofLove Testimonies.pdf) (3-5 min.)
- 3. Hand out the 40 Days of Love (1) Vision Letter (2) Commitment cards and (3) Prayer, Care, Share Guides to everyone in attendance.

We would encourage you to print up a copy of each of these for each participant. Read off the dates and the basic outline of the 40 Days of Love from the Vision Letter. (3-5 min.)

- 4. Leave time for Question and Answer. Reiterate the desired outcome and scope that God has been speaking to you. (5-10 min. or as long as is necessary)
- 5. End the time of sharing with a particularly powerful testimony of what people can anticipate if they unite together in a Prayer, Care, Share Lifestyle across the area. (From off the testimony document or from revivals in history.) (1-3 min.)
- 6. Close with a prayer time to give those who are there an opportunity to ask God if He would have them participate.
- 7. Ask them to fill out and hand in the commitment cards right then and there (or go online and fill out the online form right then and there from their phones www.40daysoflove.net/signup) (1-2 min.)
- 8. Make a list that you will hold onto of those who signed up so that your local team can follow-up with them. (Don't just have them sign-up online and not let you know they signed up in person. Share with them how you intend to follow-up with them. Whether that be through sharing the date/time of your next implementation meeting etc.)
- * IMPORTANT NOTE: It is best to have your local team be the ones who will follow-up with the new ministries that come onboard as a result of your outreach to them rather than relying on our national team to make the follow-up.

5. Open up Your Implementation Team to New People

As you see who is responding to participate in the 40 Days of Love, expand your implementation team to include new people that the Holy Spirit highlights. Consider forming smaller teams or "task forces" within the larger team that are focused on specific sectors of society. (For example: You may have a team that has a real heart to reach internationals living and visiting your area with the Jesus Film. You may have a group of teachers or high school students who have a heart to use the 40 Days of Love in their area. Consider giving smaller groups the freedom to move forward with what God places on their hearts.)

If some of those who are supporting the 40 Days of Love are simply too busy to add an additional meeting, ask if their ministry can send a key representative to be part of the 40 Days of Love planning meetings.

• Agree to meet on some form of a regular basis to plan and prepare as you head towards the start of the 40 Days (Every other week or at least on a monthly basis)

Encourage each participating congregation to have at least a 2-3 person in-house implementation team which will really be helpful for that ministry to fully engage.

What should you meet about?

- Go back to the focus and scope question with the larger implementation team and see what God's Spirit continues to speak to you as you involve others.
- Begin to discuss more practical aspects of the 40 days:
 - o Implementation of the 5 Phases
 - o Pre-Training Opportunities (<u>www.40DaysofLove.net/Training</u>)

Testimony: By sharing about the 40 Days of Love with the Body of Christ in the state of Florida, we have seen many other nations begin to participate with us: Cuba, Dominican Republic, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Albania just to name a few.

6. Praying Through the 5 Phases of the 40 Days of Love

Holy Spirit Inspired Game Plan:

We believe that without God's leading that we labor in vain. Therefore it is critically important to take the time to seek Him in prayer and hear what His will is. Begin to break the desired outcome, specific areas of focus, and scope, down to very practical action points.

You may consider taking each phase of the 40 Days of Love and specifically asking God how He wants you to implement it. We have included some prayer points below for each phase of the 40 Days of Love:

PHASE 1: FIRST LOVE (First 10 Days)

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment." Matthew 22:36-38

Overview: The first 10 days of the 40 Days of Love are an opportunity to prepare our own hearts. We cannot give to others what we are not living in and so this is an opportunity to return wholeheartedly to our first love for God. This is a season to stop life as usual and set aside extended time with God in prayer, fasting and seeking repentance of every aspect of our lives, marriages and families that has not been right with Him. During these 10 days the Body of Christ is encouraged to provide corporate times of prayer and worship at the congregational level as well as at city/regional levels. This is also a time to offer specific training that stirs a hunger in the hearts of God's people to live out Christ-like lives.

- Rotate locations for nightly city-wide worship and prayer gatherings.
- Select a single city-wide public venue that is open for 24/7 prayer and worship during the 10 days.
- Provide Christ-like Lifestyle Training materials for use with local congregations that help train in personal revival, repentance, intercessory prayer, service and evangelism. (www.40daysoflove.net/training)
- Local congregations are encouraged to take at least one weekend (possibly in a retreat setting) to set aside this time for equipping in personal, family and community transformation. (The Christ-like lifestyle Training materials can be used.)
- Distribute the 40 Days of Love Prayer Guides and commission every believer to begin to pray, care, and share the Gospel with others.
- Put targeted prayer points in place for your community/city so that everyone is praying for the same targets. Find believers who are in each sphere and encourage them to help you come up with urgent prayer needs in their sphere.
- Consider using the 40 Days of Love to encourage your community to keep praying indefinitely. Would the Lord have you to use the 40 Days of Love as a launch pad to establish an on-going prayer network? (Related website: www.americaprays.com)

Prayer: "Father, how do You desire us to implement 10 days of repentance and prayer? What do You desire this first 10 days to look like?"		

PHASE 2: PRAYER: Raise Prayer Everywhere (Second 10 Days)

"I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before me for the land, so that I would not destroy it." Ezekiel 22:30

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

Overview: During the first 10 days we prepared our hearts. Now we transition to begin praying earnestly for the souls that God has placed around us. Using the prayer guides, every member of the Body of Christ is encouraged to pray daily by name for those that God places on their hearts. This is a time to be very proactive in praying for the breakthrough of God's Spirit in every facet of society.

- Vision: Every individual Christ-follower praying consistently for their sphere of influence, every Christian marriage/family to become a place of prayer for others, every Christian encouraged to take prayer out into society (Begin/strengthen prayer gatherings in government, businesses, schools, media/arts, neighborhoods etc.)
 - What do you mean by establishing a place of prayer? Setting a regular time where the Word of God is read, where worship and praise is offered to God, and where targeted intercessory prayer is lifted up on behalf of others. This is not merely going through religious motions but the goal is to truly meet with God and impact the lives of others through our prayers.
- Using the 40 Days of Love Prayer Guides individuals begin praying by name for those God places on their heart. (Check out our prayer resource at: www.40daysoflove.net/prayer)
- Prayer walks/prayer drives around the area.
- Consider using the 40 Days of Love to encourage your community to keep praying indefinitely. Would the Lord have you to use the 40 Days of Love as a launch pad to establish an on-going prayer network? (Related website: www.americaprays.com)

Prayer: "Father, how do You desire us to use these 10 days to lay the foundation for sustained prayer that is outward focused and truly advances Your Kingdom?"			ed		
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PHASE 3: CARE (Third 10 Days)

The greatest among you will be your servant. Matthew 23:11

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Mark 10:45

Overview: As we have gotten our own hearts right with God, and as we are beginning to raise prayer everywhere, we want to continue praying and add to it by proactively going out to serve those around us. We want to look for opportunities to meet the needs of those that we have been praying for and we also want to look for areas of our society as a whole that are in desperate need of the tangible presence of Jesus.

- Encourage every believer to actively meet the needs of those that they have been praying for. (Check out our "care" page for optional service resources: www.40daysoflove.net/care)
- Every congregation is encouraged to provide at least one service project that meets a felt need in the community where you live.
- City leaders select at least one major project to do during these 10 days in order to abundantly bless the city as a whole.

Prayer: "Father, show us what You know to be the deepest needs of our community"
Prayer: "Father, how do You desire us to tangibly express Your love to our community?"

PHASE 4: EVANGELISM: Share Everywhere (Fourth 10 Days)

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:20

This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:3-4

Overview: We have prepared our hearts, we have been praying personally, in our families and throughout society. We have been meeting the felt needs of those God has placed on our hearts. Now we want to share the Good News of Jesus in every possible way and in every possible location. A true saturation of the region with the Good News of Jesus.

- Distribute Jesus films/evangelistic tracks in order to reach every home in your community/city. (Check out our "share" page for optional evangelistic resources: www.40daysoflove.net/share)
- Street evangelism/prayer
- Local congregations are encouraged to do at least one or more outreaches to your community in which the Good News of Jesus is specifically shared.
- Individuals are encouraged to share their testimonies/evangelistic tracks/Jesus films with those they have been praying for.

What resources and relationships has God already entrusted you with? Like the boy with the fish and the loaves it is helpful to evaluate what God has already given to us before we start implementing something new:		
Prayer: "Father, how do You desire us to engage our community with the Good New Jesus?"	ws of	

PHASE 5: DISCIPLE: Follow-up Everyone

Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

Overview: Now that souls have come to place their faith in Jesus we want to be faithful stewards to disciple them in all that Jesus commanded us. This involves on-going life on life relationships that are genuine and sustainable. This portion of the 40 Days of Love continues long after the 40 Days are completed. We would also encourage you to continue the prayer, service and evangelism that was started during the 40 Days.

Potential Options:

- Provide opportunities for new believers to be baptized and publicly testify to their new faith in Jesus.
- Offer new believers small groups/training to equip them in what it means to know God. (Potential discipleship materials are found at this website: www.40daysoflove.net/training)
- Use this as an opportunity to plant new small groups/churches in all facets of society (Government, business, education, media and the arts, neighborhoods...)
- Continue establishing intercessory prayer at the personal, family and community level and watch what God does!

Prayer: "Father, how do You desire us to disciple those who come to faith in You? Give us wisdom for a sustained strategy of discipleship that impacts every sphere of life in our community."		

We believe that as the Body of Christ partners together in the pursuit of personal renewal, prayer, service, evangelism and on-going discipleship that any city can be transformed by the power of Jesus Christ! Believe God to use the 40 Days to launch an on-going network of prayer, service, evangelism and discipleship in your area if one does not already exist.



7. Utilize the Christ-Like Lifestyle Training to Prepare your Team

An important element of the **40 Days of Love** is to prepare our own hearts and lives to be ready to reach our spheres of influence for Jesus Christ. In partnership with the **Christ-Like Lifestyle Training** initiative, we are providing free online courses, and live in-person training to areas that are planning to participate in the **40 Days of Love**. The purpose of this training is to equip leaders in a lifestyle of deep intimacy with God that results in effective prayer, evangelism and discipleship.

Testimony: Disciple Nations International has been conducting these trainings in various locations around the world. In partnership with the 40 Days of Love, some 100 pastors/ministry leaders went through the Christ-Like Lifestyle training in the city of Orlando, Florida. This training helped to lay the foundation of what we saw take place during the 40 Days.

Overview of the Training

What difference would it make in our local congregation, non-profit or business if everyone was:

- Growing in a greater awareness of God's love for us and for those around us.
- Speaking a common language and sharing a common vision.
- Dealing with areas of past woundedness that hinder our ability to love and relate with others.
- Dealing with areas of personal sin (anger, lust, jealousy, appetite, sloth, greed, pride, unbelief) in a way that is constructive and transformative.
- Learning to work together as a team, preferring others above ourselves, and leading by serving.
- Walking out a lifestyle of deep intimacy with God that results in effective prayer, evangelism and discipleship.

Components of the Christ-like Lifestyle Training have been endorsed by international leaders, translated into many languages, and are being used by pastors and ministry leaders in various nations to train hundreds of local congregations.

Testimonies:

"This teaching on the Spirit-Empowered Life will help you discover and cultivate a lifestyle that is totally surrendered to Christ, and walks daily in the power of the Holy Spirit." **Dr. Dick Eastman, International President, Every Home for Christ, Colorado Springs, USA** – Referencing one of CLT's core resources.

"I believe this is something that God is going to use to stir so many to seek to live out this lifestyle. It will encourage you to keep trusting God to live out the abandoned life." Milton Monell, Director of Global Prayer, Cru/Campus Crusade for Christ — Referencing one of CLT's core resources.

"I believe 100% that this lifestyle and message is what the Church in Albania needs. This is the only thing that can bring the healing and unity in the Church that is necessary for us to see the move of God's Spirit that He so desires to do here." National Director of the Church of the Nazarene, Albania

"The feedback we are getting is that the people highly recommend this training to others. They felt that this seminar should be mandatory for Korean churches. We are deeply thankful for God's guidance and for His work in the lives of the participants?" Simon Son, Korea Campus Crusade for Christ

"We need this kind of training! In my personal opinion we should have started this 100 years ago! If it had started even 20 years ago we could have put our country in a better position. We lost our children, we lost our families because no one was there to guide them. It is vital to continue and as much as possible we need to expand the Kingdom of God and especially this training to every part of the (globe)." Johnson Matthew, Pastor, The Fellowship, USA

Time Commitment: A condensed version of the training can be done in a 2-3 day setting. Single day vision conferences are also available. Follow-up resources are used to allow the training to be sustained over time. We are offering the Christ-Like Lifestyle Training in various locations in the U.S./overseas in order to prepare for the 40 Days of Love.

•	Prayer: "Father, how would you have us utilize the Christ-Like Lifestyle Training in our area?" (Write down any specifics that God places on your heart.)			

8. Raising Funds to Reach Your Sphere of Influence

Finances may or may not be a factor depending on the size of the outreach that the Lord leads you to implement. If you only have several hundred participating, and you are using the Prayer, Care, Share Guides to activate your community, there will likely only be a minimal cost to print and distribute these. But, if the Lord is leading you to engage tens of thousands across your city, state or nation, then there may be a larger expense that you will want to consider as you plan the 40 Days of Love in your area. We encourage the ministries that are engaging with the 40 Days of Love to prayerfully raise local funding for what God is leading them into. In this way, each steering team takes ownership of what God is asking them to do.

•	• Prayer: "Father, would you have us raise funds in order to supply for the 40 Days Love outreach in our area? If so, how would you have us do this?" (Write down a specifics that God places on your heart.)					

Final Thoughts:

• Establish a PIT Crew (Personal Intercessory Team)

Based on our experience, we would highly encourage each member of the Implementation Team to put in a place a Personal Intercessory Team if you do not already have one. A Personal Intercessory Team is made up of at least 2 or more people that you will seek to send regular updated praise and prayer points (preferably at least bi-weekly). If you are interested in more information on forming a Personal Intercessory Team you can go to this link:

www.ignitingprayeraction.org/pit_crew_handbook (Click on the link on this page to download the 8 page handbook)

Your Personal Intercessory Team is really a key aspect of the spiritual backbone that is supporting the ministry work. Make the time to feed them weekly or at least bi-weekly prayer target updates. If you are regularly involved in ministry work, we would encourage you to maintain a strong PIT Crew relationship indefinitely.

- Continue to Pray throughout the process of implementation. Allow God's Spirit to refine the focus, scope and the specific implementation of both Phases of the 40 Days.
- Go expectant! Believe God to use these 40 Days to win many souls into His Kingdom and establish long-term Kingdom relationships related to prayer, evangelism and discipleship.
 Let's go prayerfully believing God for great Kingdom advancement.



Will you prayerfully consider joining us as together we love our communities to Jesus?

www.40DaysofLove.net/Signup | Office@40DaysofLove.net