

HEAD PRAYER CHA/ NIGHT WATCHMAN

First and foremost your role as Head is to model "group reunion" with your section. You should begin and end each break out session and each day of the Weekend with group prayer. Share with the section members how the Lord is leading you in the areas of Piety, Study and Action. Encourage other members to share as well. Reunion groups are the lifeblood of the 4th Day experience. Please encourage "grouping" activities.

Head Prayer Cha/ Night watchmen is in charge of both Pre-Weekend and Weekend prayer for both the candidates and team. In order to allow the Spiritual Directors to minister more effectively to the candidates, it is vital to have Prayer Chas specifically pray for and minister to the team throughout the weekend.

For the purpose of this description, the reference "Prayer Team" will be used to represent both Prayer Chas and Night watchmen.

BEFORE THE WEEKEND

1. Team Meetings

- Pray together as a section during each section meeting
- Prayer requests
 - The Prayer Team is responsible for organizing, gathering and distributing "Prayer Requests" for Team meetings. Clipboards with prayer request sheets may be used, or a poster can be set up in the front of the room at each meeting. At the end of each meeting, the Prayer Team should make sure the items collected are covered in prayer and, if appropriate, distributed to the team.
 - Partner with the Head Cha to see if there are specific requests the Director has about handling prayer requests for the team meetings.
- The Prayer Team is responsible for praying before, during and after the team meetings. Head Prayer may let the section Heads know that the Prayer Team is available for prayer during their section meetings.
- Lead Section Meetings
 - Review details about the responsibilities of the section. Many details appear in the Heads description that Team members do not see; it is helpful to review these in advance.
 - Make sure each section member has access to their position description
 - Plan for how these responsibilities will be carried out
 - If a Cha in your section misses a meeting, contact them to review details about both the team meeting and section meeting.

DURING THE WEEKEND

1. At the Campground

- Arrive early to assist the team in preparing the campground
- Check in with the Head Cha upon arrival to see if/what you have been assigned to do
- On arrival at the campground, the Prayer Chas should pray for each dorm, section and each team member. That means splitting up and making sure every person is prayed for individually. Even though you will pray very briefly for each person, it really sets the tone for the Weekend and reminds us in our business that God is still in charge.

- Set up a way to gather prayer requests in each of the dorms and candidate bathrooms. Suggestion: a box/bag with little pieces of paper and pencil.
 - Post the Weekend schedule in your section.
2. Ask each section Head if they want prayer at the beginning of each day for their section. Some Heads might want the Prayer Chas to pray for their section at a designated meeting as well. The main thing is to let the Heads know Prayer Chas are there for them.
 3. It is the Director's decision if the Prayer Chas are to concentrate on the candidates or the team. Some Director's feel that the 24-hour prayer covering from the Community (Prayer Banner) is sufficient and that the team would benefit with the prayer from the Prayer Chas. Some Director's choose for the Prayer Chas to balance their time between both the candidates and the team.
 - If you are asked by the Director to focus your attention on the team, do whatever works best for each section. Chas may not be able to stop what they are doing at that moment for you to pray with them. For example, Kitchen may be preparing for a meal and cannot stop. You can sit quietly in the back of the room and pray for them as a group or by name. But most importantly, be sensitive to the Holy Spirit.
 - If you are asked to focus on the candidates, you could walk the perimeter of the campground before the Weekend starts and during the Weekend. You can also pray over each chair in the Conference Room and chapel when they are empty.
 - While with the candidates in chapel and Conf. Room, you can pray for them as you watch their reactions and expressions. You may even be able to anticipate their needs. When the Conf. Room gets noisy during discussion and poster making, it will be easy to quietly slip out and serve elsewhere.
 4. The Prayer Team may attend Candidate chapel services (when appropriate) or sit in the back of the Conf. Room to offer silent petition that God's will be accomplished. The Prayer Team should attend Team chapels to pray with and for the team during this time of being "refueled." In some cases it is beneficial to surround the chapel and pray a "hedge of protection" around the candidates or team as they are in chapel. Much activity in this area is as the Spirit of the Lord leads.
 5. The Director may choose to have a Prayer Cha sit at the table for a Speaker during their Talk. Coordinate this with the Director or Youth Director. The Director may also ask you to be present during talks and chapel services. Make sure at least one Prayer cha is present at all times requested by the Director.
 6. Collect and pray over prayer requests collected in the dorms and restrooms. Most requests from candidates are given via the restroom boxes.
 7. Around the Clock Prayer
 - The Director may decide to have 24-hour prayer on the campground. As Head, you are responsible for assigning shifts and organizing the prayer schedule. In the past, nighttime prayer shifts have been divided as follows:
 - 12:00 AM - 2:00 AM
 - 2:00 AM - 4:00 AM
 - 4:00 AM - 6:00 AM
 - It is recommended that Prayer Chas serve on these shifts in pairs. They may circle the campground to pray for protection and engage in spiritual warfare, pray over each chair in the chapel and Conf. Room calling each Candidate, Speaker and Team member by name, or even pray outside the dorms calling each one by name.

- On some Weekends, one person on the final prayer shift of the night is responsible for waking up everyone in the morning. This is at the Head Prayer Cha's direction. Some Directors request others from the community to come and pray during the night, especially women's teams. You may be requested to ask those to come and pray. You will need to make the schedule for them also.
8. Line the walks when the candidates move from one place to another. The Head Cha will tell you when.
 9. Get copies of the VNTB Pilgrim's Guide for chapel services. You'll probably only need 2 and can share them with the prayer chas as they attend chapel services.

PRAYER TEAM GUIDELINES

1. Bring a Spirit of Idealism, Cooperation and Love to the Weekend.
2. It is important that the team understand that the Prayer Team's sole purpose is to lift them up during the Weekend. They will have Chas faithfully at their disposal to help their emotional/spiritual needs during our hectic three-day weekend. Twenty-four hours a day, if need be, a member of the Prayer Team will be there for sections and for individuals.
3. Be sure to wait to enter or exit the Conf. Room after a Talk has started. The same applies to Chapel.
 4. Each Prayer Team member should bring an alarm clock to waken themselves, if doing 24-hour prayer. Otherwise, the Rovers will wake you in the mornings.
5. Prayer Team members are to be attuned to the leading of the Holy Spirit. As you visit areas or simply walk around the campground, God will direct you to people in need.
6. You will receive a prayer palanca schedule before the Weekend begins. If a Cha from your section is scheduled for prayer palanca at a time that conflicts with the preparations in your section, it is your responsibility to find a replacement (possibly from another section - check with their Head) and communicate that change to the Head Gopher.