

SPI™ FULL LAUNCH -- Implementation Information for a Congregation or a Group

Executive Summary:

The Strategic Prayer Initiative™ has prayed and worked for many years to research, build, and test various tools, working toward the goal of helping large numbers of Scripture revering Christians to grow much more effective in prayer. Following is information concerning a Full Launch of SPI with a group or a church. The main difference between a Full Launch and an A La Carte Launch is that the congregation (or a sub-group of the congregation) commits to praying, asking, and working, for participation of everyone in either a 5y80™ Team, a PrayerCord™, or a SPI Small Group.

If individuals are currently in some type of group that already meets regularly, we would not want them to disband, but instead to bring, at least, the most basic growth features (found in the 5y80 Teams, PrayerCords, or SPI Small Groups) into their already existing small group, team, or partnership, etc. Spouses cannot be in your PrayerCord, nor should they typically be on a 5y80 Team.

In the meeting when the Survey Results Report data is shared (more on this in the following pages) with a group, a congregation, or a sub-group of a congregation, there are two basic approaches to help facilitate people getting into one of the three main growth tools:

1. The first approach is to explain the three main growth tools a.k.a. *SPI Growth Engines*: **PrayerCords**, **SPI Small Groups**, and **5y80 Teams**, in tandem with showing the people the results of their 14-Question Survey (more on that below). The individual giving the presentation lets the group know that:
 - a. leadership would like each person to be part of one of these three types of SPI growth tools.
 - b. “all” leadership have committed to forming, or becoming a member of, one of these three tools (or adapting at least the 5y80 Team fundamentals into a group they are already involved with).
 - c. everyone will be given the one-page **5y80 Team** handout, which is the least demanding, and the easiest to achieve of the three *SPI Growth Engines*. [The 5y80 Team handout and two other handouts will not be distributed until the end of the main presentation, and just after the practice run of the QuickCheck Card™.
 - d. copies of New Participant Starter Packets, for **PrayerCords/SPI Small Groups**, will be available (at the end of the presentation) to any individuals who would like a copy.
 - e. the church or group leadership will be striving to help their people to successfully set up, or to successfully get into, one of the three *SPI Growth Engines*: 5y80 Teams, PrayerCords, or a SPI Small Group. To have as many people as possible getting set up into PrayerCords, or SPI Small Groups (or at minimum on 5y80 Teams) is absolutely **central, and critically important**, to a successful SPI Full Launch.
2. The second approach is basically the same as above, except that:
 - a. after the presentation is done, the presenter asks everyone in the group, if they would be willing to become part of either a 5y80 Team, a PrayerCord, or a SPI Small Group, to please raise their hand.
 - b. next, ask those who raised their hand to take the small white commitment card (that you either pass out at that time, or have already placed in the pew racks - make sure they will have something to write with) and fill in their name and contact information. If they happen to know already two people they might be on a 5y80 Team with, or in a PrayerCord with, they can fill in the names, or if they are already in a small group that they would like to become a SPI Small Group, they can check that box, on the small white card.
 - c. [If so desired, we can provide five additional back-to-back questions to work into your presentation, or your PowerPoint presentation, that are very helpful in getting the people you are speaking with, to sign on to one of the three main SPI growth tools.]

A FULL LAUNCH of The Strategic Prayer Initiative for an entire congregation, one Sunday morning service, or a sub-group of your church e.g. a Sunday school class, Adult Bible Fellowships, or something comparable.

[Although we believe SPI has been empowered, and assisted, via the prayers of thousands of intercessors' crying out to God, over the last few decades, it should still go without saying, that taking on any attempts to use the SPI Processes, and tools, to help grow prayer on a large scale should not be attempted without bathing the SPI Implementation process itself in sufficient prayer.]

For maximum benefit we recommend a FULL SPI LAUNCH. However, a Full Launch is more demanding, takes more energy, and should not even be considered if the Senior Pastor, other pastoral staff, and the church elders, etc. are not 110% behind the effort and willing to fully participate themselves. It must be understood up front, that a FULL LAUNCH of the Strategic Prayer Initiative™ (SPI™) with a church, with one service of a multi-service church, or a sub-group of the church, is literally an effort to change the culture of the church, *and this is no easy task*.

However, the benefits of a successful FULL LAUNCH to your church locally, as well as to the church nationally (via The 5y80 Objective), are not only salient, but could also end up being sublime. We posit to you that successful growth of millions of average American Christians (what we call the middle-of-the-bell-curve), in the areas of: 1) prayer, 2) relationship with God, and 3) resisting sin, will do more to track and drive transformation in professing American Christians' lives, than most of the other actions that churches are currently measuring.

We know that this spiritual transformation is very important to our heavenly Father i.e. the Judeo/Christian God. A God who is there, and a God who has not been silent. We know God wants robust transformation in our lives because He has revealed His will to us in the Sacred Scriptures and in the incarnate God/man, Jesus Christ.

“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” Romans 12:1-2 NASB

Having some important Biblical goals measured, in the lives of millions of professing American Christians, is a reasonable practice as we strive to live lives of being **spiritually transformed** and walking in the Spirit versus walking in the flesh – Galatians Chapter 5:16-25.

The following is a quote from George Barna (a conservative Christians pollster who has spent decades of his life studying and analyzing the American church). When one first reads this quote, it can come off as very harsh, or negative. Nevertheless, to most of us, there is a ring of truth to it. As can be seen in the classic Romans' quote above, a Christian's call is to be transformed. Therefore, if measuring two or three new things, that can truly drive efforts in transformation, it would seem a very reasonable undertaking, to

start measuring them. [You will be able to see some of the results of beginning to use these measures in the data that follows shortly after this Barna quote.]

“Related to this lack of laudable direction and courageous initiative is the failure of ministries to measure the outcomes that matter. Churches – and, by extension, the people associated with them – continue to evaluate the success or failure of a congregation and of individual lives according to factors that do not do justice to the life, death, resurrection and teachings of Jesus Christ. Churches measure attendance, donations, numbers of staff, numbers of programs and square footage as their primary indicators of spiritual health and growth. Jesus did not die on the cross for such incidental outcomes. Individual believers, taking their cues from their church, measure their spiritual vitality on the basis of the frequency of their church attendance, whether they donate money to the ministry, and their general sense of personal “goodness” on a day-to-day basis. Again, such measures insult Christ. The axiom “you get what you measure” is certainly true for the Christian body in the U.S. Until we start to think about, pursue, and measure genuine spiritual transformation in individual lives, we will continue to get what we’ve been getting, as unsatisfying as that is, for years to come.”

[The State of the Church Report 2005 By George Barna]

Although, changing the prayer culture at your church is not at all easy, using SPI tools and methodologies (because of the prayerful iterative process we have used to build them) can legitimately get you strong progress with the Christians that make up your congregation, or group. However, this can only happen if your senior pastor, and other church leaders believe to their core that God wants His people to have a deep personal relationship with Him, have a good prayer life (if they don’t already have one), and additionally to be pursuing sanctification on a daily bases (i.e. actively striving against sin in one’s life). These convictions, coupled with a willingness to grind out progress, three or four yards at a time, can make large advancements with the people of your congregation or group.

Those of you who are prayer leaders should not worry about presenting all of this information to your pastor(s), or leaders. To get started, all you need to concern yourself with is to prayerfully seeing if your pastor(s), or leaders, would be willing to survey the church, or group. The survey takes people only eight (8) minutes to fill out (plus time to hand out and collect), is done on a one-time basis, and is an act of worship. You (and a team you help form) need to let the pastor, and/or leaders, know that you would be willing to: 1) bathe the process in prayer, 2) do all the logistical work concerning the survey process, 3) tabulate the surveys, 4) create the one page SPI 14-Question Survey Results Report [don’t worry, we have tools to assist you in getting these things done]. You will want to make it as easy as possible on your leadership. We know that this is a lot, but as a person convinced in the power of prayer, it does make sense, and some people need to be willing to tow this line to help the process get started. When your pastor and leadership have your church’s **Survey Results Report** in hand, they can prayerfully consider if they want to use any of the SPI Tools to help the group or congregation advance in prayer and in the depth of their personal relationship with the Lord. These Survey Results Reports can be very enlightening, and truly helpful in motivating and sustaining action, and without action we fail before we begin. Finally, if your leadership is willing to start using SPI Tools, you and other people you help to raise up, will need to be willing to continue to bathe the SPI process in prayer on a daily basis.

A number of years back in a divine elevator appointment, I verbally explained some of the SPI data (including some of the data below) to the then CEO of the very large Mission America Coalition, Dr. Paul Cedar. I asked him if he would consider the following data, and some additional related data significant? He responded that he considered these results to be highly significant. The next thing Dr. Cedar said, has

always stayed with me. He said, I would consider those results highly significant, because *when I was a pastor, I was not able to get results like that, and I worked at it very hard.*

QUESTION #1 **Those not in SPI PrayerCords / Those in PrayerCords**

How would you rate your prayer life during the past week?

	<i>Answered "Good" or "Mature"</i>		Spread
First QuickCheck Use	16.3%	/ 25.0%	8.7%
Average of the Next 3 Months	43.1%	/ 51.6%	8.5%
One year later 3 Month Average	53.1%	/ 72.5%	19.4%
Another year later 3 Month Average	51.3%	/ 77.2%	25.9%

Those not in Cords / Those in Cords

QUESTION #2

How would you rate your personal relationship with the Lord during the past week?

	<i>Answered "Deep" or "Extremely Deep"</i>		Spread
First QuickCheck Use	9.8%	/ 6.3%	-3.5%
Average of the Next 3 Months	18.2%	/ 29.7%	11.5%
One year later 3 Month Average	22.2%	/ 43.5%	21.3%
Another year later 3 Month Average	21.5%	/ 47.3%	25.8%

QUESTION #3

How much during the past week were your prayers weakened by any known, un-confessed or un-repent-ed-of sin in your life?

(Note: We strongly encourage that groups or congregations be instructed to not answer this third question until sometime in the future.)

Gave the mature answer -- "I am aware of my sinful nature, but by confession of any know sin, and true repentance, my prayers were unhindered."

	Those <u>not</u> in Cords	/	Those in Cords	Spread
First QuickCheck Use	2.2%	/	0.0%	-2.2%
Average of the Next 3 Months	9.2%	/	6.5%	7.3%
One year later 3 Month Average	14.2%	/	34.6%	20.4%
Another year later 3 Month Average	13.6%	/	38.3%	24.7%

Following is the suggested implementation outline for using most of the various SPI tools and methodologies. All the tools listed in the following outline (and highlighted in the list of 10 SPI Tools below) must be utilized if you want to undertake what we describe as a **Full Launch**. Don't forget, a Full Launch is the most difficult approach. You can utilize less complex options. For easier approaches click on the button entitled "A LA CARTE" Launches found under the How to Launch Menu at www.SPIprayer.org.

SPI Tools:

1. **SPI Diagnostic Surveys**
2. **Strategic Prayer Data Sheets** (a.k.a. Pink Sheets™)
3. **The PrayerCords™ System (also for small groups)**
4. **5y80™ Teams** (and The 5y80 Objective)
5. **Pastors' Stay Strong Teams (SSTs™)**
6. **The QuickCheck Card™**
7. **Silver Bullets Prayer Teams™ (SBTs™)**
8. **Yellow Sheet Prayer Teams**
9. **The Triple 7™ Prayer Packets a.k.a. The SPI 777**
10. **Love to Pray – for Deepening Your Prayer Life**

SPI FULL LAUNCH - Implementation Outline for Groups or Congregations:

First administer THE 14-QUESTION SPI DIAGNOSTIC SURVEY with your congregation or a sub-group of the congregation.

Tabulate Results and create a Survey Results Report. Go to the **Diagnostic Surveys button** by scrolling about halfway down the Home Page at www.SPIprayer.org. After clicking on the button, you can download copies of: the Short 14-Question Survey, Instructions for implementing the survey, a 14-Question Survey Tabulation Sheet, a Short Survey Results Report Template to be filled in with your results, as well as a copy of an actual Survey Results Report (with actual data).

A FEW WEEKS AFTER THE SURVEY IS DONE, SHARE THE RESULTS WITH THE GROUP THAT TOOK THE SURVEY. Using the survey results, alongside some key scriptures (see Appendix B at the end of this document), gives you one of the most persuasive moments you will ever have, concerning making the case for the use of the QuickCheck Card, 5y80 Teams, PrayerCords, and SPI Small Groups, (as a pathway leading to some truly measurable and identifiable transformation). **Making the most of this opportunity is imperative.** The reason we say, **YOU MAY NEVER HAVE A BETTER CHANCE FOR SERIOUS ADVANCEMENT**, is because of what your survey results will usually have revealed, and how powerful this information is regarding motivating large scale progress in the prayer lives of the majority of your congregation, or group.

On the same day that the survey results are shared, have a practice run of the QuickCheck Card with the entire group. (See Appendix A, at the end of this document, for Practice Run Instructions.)

Since, we are looking at the procedures for a FULL LAUNCH of SPI, you will need to, at least, introduce PrayerCords, SPI Small Groups, and 5y80 Teams, in combination with your presentation of the survey results. Key survey results combined with a few highly pertinent Scriptures (again, see the backside of the QuickCheck Card, and Appendix B), used well together, can make a very compelling case for the use of the QuickCheck Card, and the three (3) main *SPI Growth Engines*. So, here are the steps you will need to follow first, if you choose a FULL LAUNCH, versus implementing an A La Carte Approach:

[If you are working with a group, not a service or congregation, adapt the following to the group format you are working with. A weekly conference call is available on Thursday nights to help address any questions. Information about the call can be found at the end of this document.]

1. Do the 14-Question Short **Survey** (every launch approach, Full, A La Carte, and Grassroots, uses the survey), then
2. Set aside a sermon [or presentation time] to go over the congregation's, or groups, **survey results**. Using PowerPoint (as a visual aid) for these presentations is desirable, if possible.

3. While in tandem with presenting the results, (and using key Scriptures), you must build the case for using the QuickCheck Card.

The transition from survey data and key verses, to QuickCheck Card credibility **is critical**. The presenter must be compelling in this. In other words, people resist change, and they can have many different perspectives on change, and some will always push back, but if you make a strong case here, you will have the best chance to help move your middle-of-the-bell-curve significantly forward. The survey data, coupled with some of the key Scriptures on the back of the QuickCheck Card (Appendix B), will give you powerful allies in moving your launch forward with maximum credibility. You always have the ally of Scripture, but this survey data, and its presentation, is another very powerful ally, **but the first use of this data with your people** (*i.e. the first time your people see their survey results*), **is your best chance to setup a deep foundation for a powerful revolution of measuring key aspects about prayer and transformation. Please don't underestimate the power in these survey numbers, at this moment in time.** If you agree that large numbers of the Lord's people are falling way short of the mark in prayer, please take this challenge and help make a difference in the sphere of influence you have been given.

4. Do the QuickCheck Card practice run. (See Appendix A, at the end of this document, for Practice Run Instructions.) A QuickCheck Card master, and Tabulation Guide, are available to download from the www.SPIprayer.org website.
5. We recommend that after the presentation and the QuickCheck Card practice run, that you hand out the following documents (stapled together) to the entire group. We suggest that you don't hand these out sooner, because people will spend time looking at them, when they are supposed to be paying attention to the presentation (or sermon).
 - i. The one-page (two-sided) **Survey Results Report** for the group [only aggregate results, never individual]
 - ii. The one-page (two-sided) document entitled – “**Handout for Individuals Who Would Like to Form, or be on, a 5y80 Team**” [under the Launch Approaches dropdown menu the first of the four download options is labeled **5y80 Teams**. This download is five pages long and the last two pages are the handout].
 - iii. The one-page handout that has a **very simple explanation of PrayerCords** on the front side, **and** on the other side **a list of quotes/testimonials** from various PrayerCord members at one particular church (this is the first download available under The PrayerCords System buttons located at www.SPIprayer.org).

If possible, we suggest using ivory colored paper for the Survey Results Report, white paper for the 5y80 handout and goldenrod colored paper for the simple explanation of PrayerCords. This is not essential, but colored paper does make the handouts a little more professional looking. You could also just print all three documents on the same color paper, say ivory or beige, which again is a little more professional looking. Furthermore, we suggest that the three documents be stapled together, in the order they are listed above.

6. With any remaining time, you can use it to explain The PrayerCords and their adaptability for small groups. However, if you want your implementation to have a better chance of success, it would not be unreasonable to take the sermon or presentation time (or part of it) on an additional day, to go over the PrayerCords in much greater detail. If you really want your people to advance, you are going to have to work this process, because it is a big change, and people don't like change.
7. At the end of this sermon/presentation, tell your people that you have some New Participant's Starter Packets for anyone who would like to take one home. Inform those present that these packets explain how to set up a PrayerCord™ or a SPI™ Small Group. Also, inform them that if you do not have enough New Participant's Starter Packets, you will have some more made up, and get them to people the next time the group, service, or congregation meets. The next time the people meet will also be the official launch of the SPI Process. Additionally, it would be wise to print up some larger Promise of Confidentiality Cards for Small Groups (on green card stock), for the meeting, and some Long-Yellow Cards (on yellow cardstock). The masters for these can be downloaded under The PrayerCords System buttons located on the website www.SPIprayer.org.

[As a side note, don't buy the lie that working with various SPI methodologies for improving prayer lives and relationships with the Lord are something less than worshipful. These endeavors can reap great benefits for peoples' relationships with their Heavenly Father, as well as for the Lord's kingdom, but **some people are always going to be naysayers. So, please expect them.** Also, be watchful, prayerful and wise, as you see spiritual opposition (which at times will come from your own church personnel, or members). Having opposition is not all bad. At times, it may just mean you are doing something the enemy doesn't want to happen. Note: that in video testimonies from former Satanists (that had been assigned to a particular church,

while they were still Satanists), they said that if they could help the church to not be praying, they knew they were being successful. In the DVD Devil Worship - The Rise of Satanism, you might want to see the three minutes of film starting at 52 minutes and 20 seconds, towards the end of this very noteworthy documentary - www.jeremiahfilms.com.]

Following is a Phase One outline showing which tools to use and when, after the initial presentation(s).
FORMAL START TO THE SPI PROCESS:

COMPLETE THE FIRST OFFICIAL WEEKLY USE OF **THE QUICKCHECK CARD**. This will be continued “weekly” for either the next nine (9) or 12 months and then it will be reevaluated. The decision to measure weekly for nine (9) or 12 months should be made in advance of the first official QuickCheck use, and your people should know that you will probably go to less frequent measurement after the nine (9) or 12 months. Our recommendation is to measure weekly with the QuickCheck Card for 12 months. (However, 24 months of weekly measurement is also an option, and has been done before.) Results will need to be shared with the people at the minimum monthly and should be on easy to read graphs [we have tools to help you with these graphs]. After the initial measurement period, you can change to measuring twice a month. [A phone app version of the QuickCheck Card should be operational in the near future, if a version of it is not already available.]

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS LATER FULLY INTRODUCE, OR DISCUSS AGAIN copies of the Strategic Prayer Data Sheet a.k.a. THE PINK SHEET. Explain that a new Pink Sheet™ will be available each month and that this prayer guide can be used as a stand-alone tool, or as part of PrayerCords or SPI Small Groups. Let the people know that 75% of the Pink Sheet prayer items change monthly, and that praying for one item a day usually takes **one minute or less** but gives the users a much broader reach in national and world prayer. It is desirable to place the new Pink Sheets in the bulletins, on the last Sunday of each month, and possibly again on the following Sunday.

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS AFTER introducing the Pink Sheet, INTRODUCE AND/OR DISCUSS THE 8½” x 11” GREEN CARD entitled **What Does It Take To Have A “Good Prayer Life?”** At minimum, talk briefly through this “Good Prayer Life” document with your people. However, you might want to really consider having someone teach through this tool at this time. Teaching through this tool is not required, but it is our recommendation.

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS after introducing the **What Does It Take To Have A “Good Prayer Life?”** document you will be introducing LOVE TO PRAY A 40-Day Devotional for Deepening Your Prayer Life by Dr. Alvin VanderGriend. SPI tries to get you as many materials, (or masters so that you can make up the materials) as possible, without cost. However, when it comes to using Love to Pray, the church will need to purchase these small books. Quantity discounts are available and they are priced very reasonably. The results you saw earlier in this document were from a church where we used Love to Pray with the entire congregation. If you want to do a FULL LAUNCH, you will need to use Love to Pray. It is the best tool we know of that addresses helping your church, or group, to have a robust knowledge of prayer, and to do so in an easy-to-use, manageable format. This booklet is very helpful for those young in the faith but is still of solid value for those possessing a mature faith.

As a way to defer some of the church’s costs, we suggest you explain to the congregation, or group, that you are asking everyone to get a copy of this vitally important tool today, or next week (so you will need to have already purchased sufficient copies of this small book). Furthermore, give them a formal date when the group formally starts going through the book together. Ask everyone in the group, if they can, to pitch in \$4.95 for their copy of this book. If helpful, they can pay \$2.95, or if that is a problem, they can pay \$1.00 (or nothing), but they must have a copy of the book. Reading it entails just two (2) pages a day, five (5) days a week, for eight (8) weeks -- it is not overly demanding. In the context of the discussion about having everyone reading Love to Pray, you probably want to remind the group of their responses to survey questions, #2, #5, #9, and #10. Furthermore, we suggest churches encourage their people to save their copies of Love to Pray and consider going through them at least a second time, and possibly even a third time, in the next year or two. They will definitely gain greater knowledge if they are willing to take on a second reading.

APPROXIMATELY EIGHT (8) WEEKS after the group starts Love to Pray together, (for the sake of any not already in a PrayerCord or in a SPI Small Group) REINTRODUCE the **New Participant’s Starter Packets** and how they can be used to facilitate additional growth. If necessary, remind the group that the packets are designed to be used when setting up a PrayerCord, or making a SPI Small Group. It can also be encouraging to have some testimonies from people already in existing PrayerCords, SPI Small Groups, or on 5y80 Teams. For people who want to stay with a less complicated pathway, you can suggest they stay on, or get on, a 5y80 Team. If you still have a lot of people who are not in a PrayerCord, in a SPI Small Group, or on a 5y80 Team, we recommend that you have someone take the time to go over the basic components of the 5y80 Teams again, **and encourage those who are not on a 5y80 Team to join one**. It would be helpful to refresh the congregants, or group members, to their answers to question #7, #8, #12, #13, and #14 from the survey, that indicated some of their beliefs, convictions, and current status concerning the issues of prayer and relationship with their Lord, and why joining a PrayerCord, a SPI Small Group, or a 5y80 Team can help them to actually realize that growth, for themselves, and for the sake of Christ’s Kingdom, at the present time. Additionally, it would be wise to print up some larger Promise of Confidentiality Cards for Small Groups (on green card stock), for the meeting, and some Long-Yellow Cards (on yellow cardstock). The masters for these can be downloaded under The PrayerCords System buttons located on the website.

You might want to remind the people that anyone who said on the survey that they were unsatisfied with their prayer life, felt the Lord would like them to have a “Good Prayer Life,” and wanted to improve if it was not overly burdensome, really should at least get on, or form, a **5y80 Team**. Communicate again that these teams ask very little of participants upfront, and that anyone who sincerely thinks the Lord wants them to improve, could truly benefit from this simple, but helpful tool. You can explain again that although it doesn’t ask much, it does use **four (4) main principles** that are proven to be very powerful: daily prayer for growth in prayer, goal setting, measurement, and accountability. [In the SPI survey work, we discovered that the Sunday morning attendees said **lack of accountability was always one of the top three issues** that made it hard for them to be successful in prayer.]

(A five-page document concerning the 5y80 Teams is available under the “How to Launch Menu located at www.SPIprayer.org)
5y80 TEAMS UTILIZE:

- I. **Prayer for prayer** - Having one or more individuals praying for every member, every day, that the Holy Spirit would help them to grow in fervent, righteous, and strategic prayer.
- II. **Goal Setting** – Have individuals set the personal goals of working towards developing a “Good Prayer Life” and a deeper personal relationship with the Lord.
- III. **Measurement** – Have the Team Administrator check in with the team members on a regular basis (This should take place monthly, bi-monthly, or weekly), asking them - How they would self-rate their prayer life since the last time they were asked? **Poor, Fair, Good, or Mature**, and How they would self-rate the depth of their personal relationship with the Lord, since the last time they were asked? **Poor, Fair, Pretty Deep, Deep, or Extremely Deep**.

(If the 5y80 Team Members are part of a church that is measuring with the QuickCheck Card weekly, their Team Administrator will only need to ask the above question(s) once a month.)
- IV. **Accountability** – Have participants meet with their Team Administrator, and any others on the team, for the purposes of encouragement, sharing of prayer requests, fellowship, and accountability. These meetings are face-to-face and done at least once a month. Occasionally, if it is too difficult for the 5y80 Team, or PrayerCord to get together (or someone is missing from the SPI Small Group meeting), this accountability can take place via phone, text, or social media, etc. The Long-Yellow Card for tracking should be used by the Team Administrator. It is available to download under The PrayerCords System buttons at the SPI Website.

Prayer Tools - Have the Team Administrator or teammates help participants to be aware of prayer tools that can help them achieve a “Good Prayer Life” and a deeper relationship with the Lord. Some SPI Tools and recommendations are available, but people are free to use whatever tools they would like to, for improving their prayer lives, as long as the tools are not in conflict with the Word of God. If you are not sure if a particular prayer tool may in some way be dishonoring to the Lord, or be theologically inappropriate, please seek out the counsel of your pastor, or someone else who has a mature faith, and strong Biblical knowledge. (See www.prayershop.org)

(The Word of God is being defined as, the books of the Old and New Testaments, which are propositional revelation that can be confirmed as having good and sufficient reasons to be considered trustworthy. This trustworthiness is shown by way of historical, archaeological, and philosophical apologetics, as well as fulfilled prophecy.)

[There are a number of different resources we recommend that can help deepen your personal relationship with the Lord, five of which are: 1. Face To Face Volume One – Praying the Scriptures for Intimate Worship by Kenneth Boa, 2. Face To Face Volume Two – Praying the Scriptures for Spiritual Growth also by Kenneth Boa, 3. Pray the Word – 90 Prayers That Touch the Heart of God by Tiece L. King. Each of these three books is a 90-day devotional to help the reader grow in their intimacy with our living God. Furthermore, they do so by helping you to pray growth prayers made up of Scripture and are therefore in God’s will (see Appendix F in the following book); we would also highly recommend that you lay a strong prayer foundation by reading the short book Love to Pray by Dr. Alvin VanderGriend, at least one, two, or even three times. It is fairly easy, just two pages a day, yet very powerful! Additionally, we suggest everyone get a copy of and use Abide in Christ by Andrew Murray. It is available in print and on audio.]

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS after REINTRODUCING the **New Participant’s Starter Packets**, and the **5y80 Teams Handout**, GIVE EVERYONE THE MATERIALS CONCERNING **YELLOW SHEET PRAYER TEAMS** and introduce the people to Team-Yellow Sheets, and General-Yellow Sheets. Also, explain to the people that you will be looking for 31 individuals for the first Team-Yellow Sheet Prayer experiment at your location, and that each team member gets to contribute one non-health related (the reason for this is explained in the Yellow Sheet documents) prayer request, and one unsaved individual, to the Master Prayer List (MPL). Yellow Sheet Prayer Teams are a great way to create a lot of prayer, for the 31 prayer requests, and the 31 unsaved individuals, by using a leverage principle. The prayer responsibility

for each member on one of these teams is only a one-minute-a-day commitment, and then, **only once a month**, each member prays for the whole list of requests from the 31 Team Members. (This only takes 20-30 minutes and is not difficult because they have a list. Once they have prayed the list on their one day each month, they are done.) The Team-Yellow Sheet tool guarantees that each of the 31 prayer requests and 31 unsaved individuals will get prayed for at least 500 times.

Once the nine (9) or twelve (12) month initial implementation phase has been completed, our recommendation is that you use the QuickCheck Card (or electronic equivalent), on a twice-a-month basis for the next six months. You will want to keep an eye on your levels i.e. your GPL Levels (“Good Prayer Life”), your DPR Levels (“Depth of Personal Relationship”) and your ERS Levels (“Effectively Resisting Sin”), to see if they are moving up, holding static, or beginning to drop. These three levels are derived from the three questions on the QuickCheck Card. If most of your people have not already started to answer the third question on the QuickCheck Card on their own, or at your request, you should ask them to try to begin answering it now, but reinforce that they are not obligated to. Question #3 is anonymous and it does not distinguish what sins someone might be struggling with, but it does help to begin to measure a very important indicator of Biblical transformation in the person’s life, an area that Scripture says over and over and over again, is important to God, and is an undeniable part of being a Christian/follower of the Lord Jesus Christ i.e. holiness and the sanctification process – actively resisting sin on a daily basis. (See 1 Peter 1:16, Matthew 28:20, John 14:15, James 4:8, Galatians 5:16-23, parts of Appendix B, and many other Scriptures.)

[It is up to the leadership when, and if, they want to ask their people to begin anonymously answering **Question #3**, on the QuickCheck Card. We do think it is best, based on our past prototypes, to tell **people to not answer this question at this time** (when Phase One begins), but we would recommend you begin to encourage your people to consider answering Question #3, four (4) or five (5) months after the Formal Start of the SPI Process (Phase One), and the first official use of the QuickCheck Card. However, people are free to begin to answer the question anytime, if they personally choose to. The three main QuickCheck Card questions are profoundly intertwined, and if someone is doing well in these three areas (are engaging with Scripture regularly, and have fellowship), in all likelihood they are maturing in their faith, and solidly moving ahead in the transformation that the Word and the Lord are calling us to.]

At the end of the first phase, (whether it is a nine (9), or 12 month initial phase), we encourage you to offer your people the opportunity to move up to the next more advanced stages of the *SPI Growth Engines: 5y80 Teams* can move up to PrayerCords or SPI Small Groups. PrayerCords and SPI Small Groups can become a Triad, or the small group equivalent. After spending six months as a Triad, the next option is a Battle Cord, (or the small group equivalent). Finally, after an additional six months as the Battle Cord, (or the small group equivalent), participants can move up to the final stage, the NHB stage a.k.a. the Nothing Held Back Stage.

Your research will show that there are gaping voids in most of our churches concerning the issue of prayer. Furthermore, let’s not forget that Jesus called His house a House of Prayer. He could have named it anything He wanted to: the House of Evangelism, the House of the Word, the House of Tithing, but He didn’t, He said “My House Shall be a House of Prayer” (Matthew 21:13 and Mark 11:17 - If you favor not using these passages this way, there are still *many* other Scriptures laying out the importance, the necessity, and the priority of prayer.). Furthermore, our pastors and priests are called by Scripture to be **prioritizing**, in their lives, **prayer and the ministry of the Word - Acts 6:4**. For you prayer leaders we would like to reiterate that if you are unable to obtain your pastor’s or priest’s, and your leaders’ total support for a **Full Launch**, with full participation on each of their parts, you probably don’t want to waste your time laboring on a Full Launch. Starting small with a Grassroots Launch will make your first efforts more likely to succeed, at least with those you are trying to assist.

Pastors and Priests - we thank God for you, and all other pastors and priests who have a “Good Prayer Life.” If this is you, it will be easy to lead the way by being on a 5y80 Team, in a PrayerCord, or in a SPI Small Group (because you are already succeeding), and if you are not doing that well, don’t you want to try to get better, as long as it is not too burdensome? As we have said before, we consider the three main questions on the QuickCheck Card to be *The Iron Triangle of Spiritual Warfare*. There is not doubt these three questions matter mightily! If you are a Shepherd of Christ’s flock, please consider welcoming carefully tested ways to address the seven main obstacles to prayer that people are facing? Furthermore, don’t you want your people to gain **the huge benefits** of tracking some essential measures of transformation? Transformation is not an option; it is what the Lord has asked for. Please make a commitment to move your people forward, the status quo for more than half of the people in our Scripture revering churches, is not acceptable, as they will tell you themselves when you get their confidential survey responses. The Lord and His kingdom, especially at this moment in U.S. and U.K. history, need His people to start legitimately growing in prayer. Look at the survey results for your people and consider if you have been given a mandate to help them, or not, and if you have then act, and act boldly! Think of **the latent power of all the unused fervent righteous prayer** to help: more people to get to heaven, the Lord’s Kingdom to advance, the poor and suffering to be aided, principalities and powers to be thwarted and some of Hell’s gates to be broken down. The prayer of faith can MOVE A MOUNTAIN, yet the SPI research shows that about half of the U.S. church has never had a good prayer life or has only had one for a “small” portion of their total life as a Christian. Do you think the Lord might actually want this sleeping giant to be awakened?

“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give and account.

Hebrews 13:17a ESV

In this document we have laid out the *most* comprehensive Phase One SPI Approach used to change the culture of your church. We know that it probably seems too complicated and demanding for most churches. Nevertheless, after repetitive launches and adjustments and relaunches, we have been able to demonstrate back-to-back successes, when the church took on the process as we advised them. This is something half-a-dozen of the nation’s top prayer experts have confirmed they have not seen done before. Going forward we will be working with five handpicked churches to further confirm duplicability. We have little doubt that with the right size church, and the right Senior Pastor, we will repeatedly be able to double the number of people in the congregation reporting a “Good Prayer Life” within four (4) to eight (8) months, as long as the church’s leadership will implement the way we consult them to. It took many years of research, model building and prototyping to get to methodologies that are capable of driving duplicatable successes, but they will not work for the locations that want to change key variables in the process; we know this from experience. Keep in mind that the American Bible-believing church is often long on information, and short on execution, but we have been working for over 15 years to solve those failures in the area of prayer. Our strong successes should also be available to your congregation, if you will do it the way that has worked before.

On the other hand, starting out with just the 14-Question Diagnostic Survey, 5y80 Teams (and probably the monthly Pink Sheet) is *much simpler*. If you know you and/or many in your flock need to become more effective in prayer, and additionally need to realize greater spiritual transformation, please take a look at Approach (A), in the “A LA CARTE” Launches document. Relatively speaking it is rudimentary compared to this FULL LAUNCH Approach. If you want to honestly, literally, and measurably drive *Iron Triangle* growth at your church, the A La Carte Launch Approach (A) is an easier way to start out. If you use the easier A La Carte Launch Approach (A) and can add in the QuickCheck Card, it would be a *very* advantageous addition. Approach (A) will get you growth from the middle-of-your-bell-curve, but if you won’t even try this highly simplified approach, you are not very likely to ever be able to drive true sustainable prayer growth, in the preponderance of the sheep you have been placed over as their shepherd.

The greatest predictor of future performance is past performance, and what most of you will see in your diagnostic Survey Results Reports is that 40% to 55% of your people will never develop consistent “Good Prayer Lives,” because all approaches in the last 30+ years have not been able to crack into the middle-of-the-bell-curve i.e. the Sleeping Giant. Furthermore, those that have had large scale victories, typically cannot successfully repeat their effectiveness in church after church, using the formula that worked for them. On the other hand, SPI has worked from the very beginning to develop duplicatable models, that can actually get to the average person sitting in our pews i.e. the middle-of-the-bell-curve.

We believe the giant can be awakened, but only if the leaders will lead by example, and the average American Christian will step to the plate and act on what they have said in the confidential 14-Question SPI Survey. Remember, Jesus’ disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. The prayer of faith has the power to do great things, even to move obstacles the size of a mountain (Mark 11:23-26, and Matthew 21:21-22). Please won’t each of you commit to develop a “Good Prayer Life” (if you don’t already have one) and help your people to maintain, or obtain, a “Good Prayer Life” and a deep relationship with the Lord.

We are in a huge battle, and fervent righteous prayer is one of the greatest weapons the Lord has provided us to use, to break spiritual strongholds in our lives, to help build the Lord’s Kingdom, to rescue others from the jaws of hell, and to fight the principalities and powers of this dark world. The battles are real, but the prayers of a righteous person can avail much. The PrayerCords only require three minutes a day, and lunch or coffee, etc. once a month, with your Cord members, and the 5y80 Teams are even less demanding. So, let’s seize the moment and grow ourselves and our churches in prayer. **It is the under-utilized powerhouse in our faith, and** your survey numbers should show you the truth of these words. So, is it really wise to not try harder to help God’s people to see real growth in prayer, and see much greater levels of transformation in their lives? So, we encourage you to say yes, and try! It will require a culture change, but it will be so worth it if you actually succeed!!

Note: we also make a **weekly conference call** available on Thursday nights at / 9:30 pm Eastern Time / 8:30 pm Central / 7:30 pm Mountain / 6:30 pm Pacific. Someone will be available on these calls for at least 10 minutes. If no one has called in by then, the call will end at that time (until the following week). These calls are available to anyone. The purpose of these calls is so that individuals, or prayer teams, can ask general and/or specific questions concerning getting into a PrayerCord, or launching a PrayerCords Ministry, or SPI Small Group’s Ministry, or becoming part of The 5Y80 Objective. **To participate in the weekly conference call, use the following phone number 712.770.5505 and access code 478951.** [T-Mobile customers are charged a penny a minute. None of this goes to SPI.]

APPENDIX “A”

Instructions for the Practice Run with the QuickCheck Card:

1. Handout a copy of the QuickCheck Card to all present.
2. Make sure they have a pen or pencil and provide them if needed.
3. Ask them to circle their answer to the demographic question (i.e. Visitor, Attendee, or Church Member).
4. Ask them to circle the answer “Poor” to Question #1 about their prayer life.
5. Regarding Question #2 have them circle the answer “Poor” concerning their relationship with the Lord.
6. **Clearly instruct those present to skip** (i.e. give no answer to Questions #3) at this point in time.
7. Tell them to leave the final question unchecked, since none in the group are currently active in SPI yet.
8. Let them know that the next time you meet each person will be given a blank copy of a QuickCheck Card to fill out and hand in. Explain that next week their cards will be filled out in the same fashion as this practice run, except for the fact that the answers they circle for Questions #1 and #2 will be the answers they feel most accurately represent their current self-rating of their prayer life, and their current self-rating of their personal relationship with the Lord.

To get the best results, filling out and passing in the QuickCheck Cards should not be done at the end of the service or meeting. For the most advantageous results, give the people the QuickCheck Cards during the meeting or service. Then during the meeting or service give the people about four (4) minutes to fill out the cards. Once the cards are filled out, have the people place the cards face side down and pass them to the aisle to get collected. After people have actually used the QuickCheck Card a few times, they will be able to fill it out in about 90 seconds, but you will still need to give them a little time to pass them in.

You can try giving out the cards sooner e.g. having them in the bulletin or in the pews, but if it seems like the number of cards you get turned in are significantly less than the general attendance at the service or group meeting, you should probably go back to handing them out in the middle of the meeting. Ask the people to fill them out at that time and then collect them right away. [Asking your people to anonymously tell the leaders, or shepherds, who are responsible to help them grow spiritually, how they are doing with their prayer life and their relationship with the Lord, is not unreasonable. If they should be antagonistic or hostile to that action, one has to wonder why. Some might say working on your prayer life or working on your relationship with the Lord is a legalism, but that doesn't seem like the legalisms brought up in Scripture. If a handful of people are naysayers, the leadership might want to talk to them privately to hear why they might feel that way, and if their complaints are relevant enough to not strive to systematically work for real growth in prayer and relationships with the Lord.]

APPENDIX “B”

Written out Scripture References from the Back of the QuickCheck Card™

We serve a God who wants relationship with us:

14 John 15:14-15 English Standard Version (ESV)

You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

Leviticus 20:26 English Standard Version (ESV)

²⁶You shall be holy to me, for I the LORD am holy and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be mine.

2 Corinthians 6:16 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹⁶What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

1 John 2:1-6 English Standard Version (ESV)

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. ³And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

Ezekiel 14:11 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹¹that the house of Israel may no more go astray from me, nor defile themselves anymore with all their transgressions, but that they may be my people and I may be their God, declares the Lord GOD.”

Matthew 23:37 English Standard Version (ESV)

³⁷“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

We live in a world that is in the midst of a spiritual battle:

Ephesians 6:12 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:18 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹⁸praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

Daniel 10:12-14 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹²Then he said to me, “Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia, ¹⁴and came to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come.”

2 Corinthians 10:2-7 English Standard Version (ESV)

²I beg of you that when I am present I may not have to show boldness with such confidence as I count on showing against some who suspect us of walking according to the flesh. ³For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, ⁶being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete. ⁷Look at what is before your eyes. If anyone is confident that he is Christ's, let him remind himself that just as he is Christ's, so also are we.

1 Peter 2:11 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

Revelation 12:7-13 and 17 English Standard Version (ESV)

⁷Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. ¹⁰And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. ¹²Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!” ¹³And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child...¹⁷Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

Our fervent “righteous” prayers can affect many outcomes of the battle:

James 5:16 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Romans 15:30 English Standard Version (ESV)

³⁰ I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,

1 Timothy 2:1-4 English Standard Version (ESV)

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,⁴ who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Colossians 4:2-3a English Standard Version (ESV)

² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹ Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, ²and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith.

Acts 12:5 English Standard Version (ESV)

⁵ So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Matthew 21:21-22 English Standard Version (ESV)

²¹ And Jesus answered them, “Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ it will happen.²² And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

Isaiah 59:1-2 English Standard Version (ESV)¹ Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;² but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

1 Peter 3:12 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹²For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

Psalms 66:18 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹⁸If I had cherished iniquity [sin] in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

Romans 15:30 English Standard Version (ESV)

³⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,

As well as the depth of our relationship with the Lord:

Luke 10:27a English Standard Version (ESV)

²⁷And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

James 4:4-8 English Standard Version (ESV)

⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us?” ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

John 8:7-11 English Standard Version (ESV)

⁷And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” ⁸And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Jesus stood up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”]

Leviticus 20:7-8 English Standard Version (ESV)

⁷Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am the LORD. ⁸Keep my statutes and do them; I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

1 Peter 1:14-17 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹⁴As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” ¹⁷And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile,

2 Corinthians 13:5 English Standard Version (ESV)

⁵Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? —unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

2 Peter 1:3-4, and 10-11 English Standard Version (ESV)

³His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ¹⁰Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. ¹¹For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.