

SPI™ A La Carte LAUNCH -- Implementation Outlines for a Group or Congregation

Executive Summary:

There are a number of different configurations and timetables that the following 10 SPI Tools (as well as some others) can be used in, relative to a SPI A La Carte Launch.

SPI Diagnostic Surveys	The QuickCheck Card™
Strategic Prayer Data Sheets (a.k.a. Pink Sheets™)	Silver Bullets Prayer Teams™ (SBTs™)
The PrayerCords™ System (also for small groups)	Yellow Sheet™ Prayer Teams
5y80™ Teams (and The 5y80 Objective)	The Triple 7™ Prayer Packets – a.k.a. The SPI 777
Pastors' Stay Strong Teams (SSTs™)	<u>Love to Pray</u> – for Deepening Your Prayer Life

However, there are at least three (3) tools that we feel should always be present.

Following are brief explanations of these three (3) tools:

- a. A SPI Diagnostic Survey
- b. 5y80™ Teams (and The 5y80 Objective), and
- c. Team-Yellow Sheet (Prayer Teams)

Use of a SPI Diagnostic Survey

The 14-Question Short Diagnostic Survey is invaluable for congregations, groups, or individuals by:

- helping those taking it to ponder, or clarify, some of their own convictions, actions, and feelings concerning prayer, and whether or not they would sincerely like to improve.
- helping the leadership to have a *much* better understanding of where their people are at concerning the discipline of prayer, and whether or not leadership would be interested in making a concerted effort to help these individuals to grow more effective in prayer.
- setting up a baseline that allows leadership to track the group overall, as they move progressively forward in having an increasing number of the people developing and/or maintaining “Good Prayer Lives.” [Note: the people who already have a “Good Prayer Life,” (a GPL™) are often ideally suited to help one or two others develop and maintain a GPL, as well as seeing more answers to their prayers for the Lord’s work.]

5y80™ Teams Include:

- I. **Prayer for prayer** – We have one or more individuals praying for every member (by name), every day, that the Holy Spirit would help them to grow in fervent, righteous, and strategic prayer.
- II. **Goal Setting** – We have and communicate the two (2) main goals of the 5y80 Teams:
 - a. working toward a “Good Prayer Life,”
 - b. working toward a Deeper Personal Relationship with the Lord.It has long been known that those who set goals and act on them consistently outperform those who don’t.
- III. **Measurement** – We have Team Administrators of 5y80 Teams regularly check in with the team members concerning:
 - a. How they would self-rate their prayer life since the last time they were asked?
 - b. How they would self-rate the depth of their personal relationship with the Lord since the last time they were asked?The axiom, what gets measured gets done, is a fact known around the world.
- IV. **Accountability** – We have Team members meet with their Team Administrator at least once a month for the purposes of encouragement, sharing of prayer requests, fellowship, and accountability. Our research consistently shows “lack of accountability” to be among the top three things survey-takers indicate interfered with, or hindered, their prayer lives.

Team-Yellow Sheet Prayer Teams

There are of course others, but **two of the main ways to measure if people are growing in prayer are: A)** to get their input on a regular basis and have them tell you if they are doing well or not. **B)** the second way is to track answers, because if they are praying Biblically, they will be getting some favorable answers. Tracking answers is helpful not only for the answers themselves, but also as a way to inspire people to want to pray more.

An A La Carte 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.

[A one-page outline labeled as Appendix “C” is available at the end of this document. This one-page outline can show you some suggested approaches to a two-year long SPI Implementation with your congregation, service, or group. As you will see in the following pages, there are a fair number of different configurations that can be used concerning SPI Tools and methodologies. This short one-page outline can more quickly give you a feel for a fairly comprehensive SPI implementation approach. The **Appendix “C” Outline** is similar to Approach (C) below but is not exactly the same.]

We know that we are throwing a very large amount of information and terminology at you, but please keep in mind that we are proposing a massive five-year prayer experiment that is trying to involve 80% of all of the authentic American Christians. Simply put, we are trying to assist large numbers of sincere American Christians to help themselves and one or two others to have or develop and then maintain a “Good Prayer Life.” We want to see what the Lord will do in response to this massive buildup of fervent, righteous and strategic prayer. Based on our research with about 3,700 individuals, if you use a SPI Diagnostic Survey with your group, or church, virtually all of you will see that your people actually want to have a “Good Prayer Life” but (as of now) a strong majority of them have not been able to get it done consistently. You will probably see that 22% to 33% of your group or congregation is doing well. We encourage these successful individuals (making up the 22% to 33%) to help just one or two others. These measurements are *much* more pertinent to transformation than what the American Church usually measures. Below is a very strong statement concerning the things that the US church does and does not measure. It can feel very harsh, but it also contains some important truths.

“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]

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.

*“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. 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*

GOING FORWARD - Although there are many different configurations possible for A La Carte SPI Launches, in the pages to follow, we will offer you three possible A La Carte Launch approaches (labeled as A, B, and C). If you use one of these three approaches, there is still plenty of flexibility to add in more tools, now or in the future.

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

The first one, **Approach (A)**, is where we propose most of you start out. The reason we say that about using Approach (A), is because it is **one of the least complicated implementation options**. Even though this, by comparison, is an easier approach, it still takes into account fundamental tools and strategies that are instrumental for driving long-term change. Moreover, we are convinced that nearly all churches, or groups, armed only with most of the various prayer strategies that have been tried up until now (at this moment in history), will probably *not be able to facilitate real prayer growth in the personal lives of large numbers of those sitting in their pews*, i.e. average American Christians (a.k.a. the middle-of-the-bell-curve), a group that we are totally committed to helping to unequivocally obtain success! Additional tools can help a launch to be more effective, but we would rather see you implementing Approach (A), versus not trying anything, because you felt the other approaches would be too complicated and therefore too difficult to implement.

- A. **Approach (A)**—This approach is the one that was introduced in the Executive Summary at the start of this document. It is our most basic implementation approach, and it includes only three (3) SPI Tools for greater simplicity, while still helping to drive long-term growth in a group, or a congregation.
- B. **Approach (B)** – This approach encourages you to use five (5) of the SPI Tools. In this approach, you start out by doing the 14-Question Survey. After the survey is done, the presentation of the survey results is made, and at that time the 5y80 Teams are fully explained. Additionally, near the end of the meeting, you will pass out to everyone, the following three documents [stapled together]: The **Survey Results Report**, the **5y80 Team Information** (i.e. the “**Handout for Individuals Who Would Like to Form, or be on, a 5y80™ Team**”), and the **Basic PrayerCord Information**. Furthermore, PrayerCords, and SPI Small Groups are explained verbally, and the leadership of the congregation, or group, lets the people know that they have a **New Participant's Starter Packet** for anyone who would like one. [These packets fully explain the PrayerCords, and the SPI Small Groups. The same information packet can be used for either of these tools. Although, SPI Small Groups do need two customized additions, which we make available.]
- C. **Approach (C)** – The first phase of this approach offers you a nine (9) or 12 month implementation plan, and it takes into account at least seven (7) of the full range of SPI Tools. This is one of our general recommendations. It is similar to a SPI FULL LAUNCH except that the PrayerCords and SPI Small Groups do not have to be explained and encouraged as much as they should be in a FULL LAUNCH. In Approach (C) however, the required use of the QuickCheck Card is an important part of this recommendation. Furthermore, asking many people to strongly consider being in a PrayerCord or a SPI Small Group, versus just being on a 5y80 Team can be very desirable, especially since the QuickCheck Card is being used, and it interplays well with the PrayerCords, and the SPI Small Groups. (The entire group is shown updated progress graphs from QuickCheck Card data at least monthly.)

The first phase concerning Approach (C) finishes up at the end of the nine (9) month or 12-month time period. (You will need to decide on one of these time frames and communicate that information upfront.) In the next phase, there are various adjustments that will need to be considered. [We encourage you to have the plan for the second phase decided on three or four months before you will begin implementing it. We will try to always have someone available on weekly conference calls to consult with you on any phase of a SPI implementation. More information about the weekly conference calls is available under the “Contact” Dropdown Menu on the home page of www.SPIprayer.org.]

Now we do have a strong suggestion, that most of you might want to take. Consider only reading the following material [about three pages] concerning Approach (A), and don't even look at, or worry about, Approaches (B) or (C), let alone a Full Launch. Accordingly, what we are saying is that we don't want to put extra work on your plate that might scare you away altogether, so that you do nothing, when we can lighten up on you, by using Approach (A) which will help you to see real progress, versus little progress, in the vitally important area of large scale prayer growth in our U.S. churches (as well as churches in the U.K.). You will be able to truly help your people if you fully implement Approach (A). So, let's just start out with the easiest approach, and leave the other information for another day. [Nevertheless, if you can handle some additional complexity, adding in the QuickCheck Card to Approach (A) does give some very distinct advantages.]

The first Approach (A), is the one that was discussed in the Executive Summary at the beginning of this document. It is our most basic approach, and it includes only three (3) of the SPI Tools. These three tools “*need*” to be used, for the sake of real and increasing progress maintained for the long-term. [This approach leaves out some incredibly important tools, but we have to start somewhere, and Approach (A) gets rid of a lot of complexity, so as to make it easier to get started.]

Following are the three (3) SPI Tools that (as the minimum) **must be used to have a legitimate, longer-term, seat at the table.** This opinion is based on many years of prayer, research, analysis, many counselors, prototypes, and trial and error.

1. A **SPI Diagnostic Survey** – This is a one-time event that takes eight (8) minutes for your people to fill out, but it must be done Sunday morning, as an act of worship, and should not be done at the end of the service.
2. **5y80™ Teams** (and The ****5y80 Objective**) – We know, again from our Sunday morning research, that 40% to 55% of those present on Sunday morning have never had a “Good Prayer Life” or have only had one for a “*small*” portion of their total life as a Christian. The 5y80 Teams use four (4) key concepts, or principles, to help this group get to an ongoing position of success. The principles are:
 - I. **Prayer for prayer** – 5y80 Teams have one or more individuals praying for each participant (by name), every day, to have the Holy Spirit help them grow in fervent, righteous, and strategic prayer.
 - II. **Goal Setting** – Have individuals take on the personal goal of working towards developing a “Good Prayer Life.” Although it is optional, most also take on the goal of a Deeper Personal Relationship with the Lord.
 - III. **Measurement** – Have Team Administrators check in with the team members on a regular basis (This should take place weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly), 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**. [We recommend Team Administrators use the Long-Yellow Tracking Card which can be downloaded after clicking on one of The PrayerCords System buttons on the www.SPIprayer.org website.]

(If the 5y80 Team Members are part of a church, or group, that is measuring with the QuickCheck Card weekly, the 5y80 Team Administrator will only need to ask the above two questions once a month.)

- IV. **Accountability** – Have members 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, this accountability may take place via other mediums, such as phone, text, or social media, etc.

Optional Prayer Tools – Have the Team Administrator or teammates make other participants 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 improve 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. (Also 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 that 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. We would also highly recommend that you lay a strong prayer foundation by reading Love to Pray – A 40-Day Devotional for Deepening Your Prayer Life by Dr. Alvin VanderGriend one or more times. This short booklet (two pages a day) is a 40-day devotional, it is very easy to read, yet the content is of the highest level of usefulness, and brilliantly helpful. Additionally, we suggest everyone obtain and use a copy of Abide in Christ by Andrew Murray, available in print or on audio.]

****5y80TM** stands for the God-sized goal of helping to empower 80% of the Christians in America to have, or develop, a “Good Prayer Life” and maintaining it for five (5) years. This is not an unreasonable goal in light of the fact that research shows about 96% of Christians (surveyed Sunday morning) believe God wants them to have a “Good Prayer Life,” as long as it is acknowledged that these “Good Prayer Lives” will look different for different individuals. Our Sunday morning research indicates that only about 28% of the people we have surveyed currently have a good or a mature prayer life. Additionally, the survey work shows that the preponderance of those without a “Good Prayer Life” say they are not satisfied, and would like to improve, if it was not too difficult, or overly burdensome.

3. **Team-Yellow Sheet (Prayer Teams)** -- Yellow Sheet Prayer Teams are a great way to create a lot of prayer, for 31 prayer requests, and 31 unsaved individuals, by using a leverage principle. The prayer responsibility for each of the 31 members on one of these teams is only about a one-minute-a-day commitment. Then, once a month, each member prays for the whole list of 31 requests and the 31 unsaved individuals. This tool guarantees that each of the prayer requests will get prayed at least 500 times, and when there are clear answers to some of the prayers, many of those positive answers will be able to be used to encourage other people to want to pray more, or to want to join a future Team-Yellow Sheet Prayer Team. This tool has been built to minimize the time commitment, while still getting *a huge amount of prayer prayed* for important non-health related requests and for the salvation of unsaved family, friends, coworkers, or neighbors. [This non-health related point is more fully addressed by clicking on **Download I Full Packet** which is located under **Yellow Sheet Prayer Tools** on the www.SPIprayer.org website.]

[The research has told us that, hands down, the biggest obstacle or hinderance to people’s prayer success is always “not making the time.” “Not having the time,” as a second question about time, was always the second or third highest obstacle, but it was typically 20 to 30 points lower than “not making the time.” Accordingly, we have tried hard to help people start advancing in their prayer lives, while keeping entrance level time commitments very manageable. If people are afraid of putting their toes in the water, you will be far less likely to get them to go swimming. SPI also tries to do as much work for you as possible, to make it easier for people (and churches) to succeed. For example, the monthly Strategic Prayer Data Sheets a.k.a. the Pink Sheets, are a very easy to use, but comprehensive tool. All the effort of getting this tool produced regularly comes from the work of SPI or other contributing ministries. Additionally, this ongoing and strategic tool is made available without cost, like we try to do whenever we can, with as many SPI Tools as possible.]

You will need to familiarize yourself very well with the basics of introducing each of these three (3) tools before you begin explaining them, or implementing them. See the **5y80 Teams** download under the “How to Launch” dropdown menu, and **Download I Full Packet** under the Yellow Sheet Prayer Tools button under the “Tools” dropdown menu at our website.

The next step is to **DO THE 14-QUESTION SPI DIAGNOSTIC SURVEY**

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 its use, a 14-Question Survey Tabulation Sheet, a Short Survey Results Report Template to be filled in with your survey results, as well as another church’s Survey Results Report with actual data.

A FEW WEEKS AFTER THE SURVEY IS DONE, SHARE THE RESULTS WITH THE GROUP THAT TOOK THE SURVEY. This is the time to use the survey results and some key Scriptures (referenced on the backside of the QuickCheck Card™, and written out in Appendix “B”) to do a sermon or a presentation [preferably with PowerPoint], that will allow you to make a very strong case for initiating **5y80 Teams** with your congregation or group. Building this strong case for the use of 5y80 Teams is *imperative!* Combining key Scriptures along with key survey results will give you one of the best chances you will [possibly ever] have to compel the congregation or the group to actually become an active member of a 5y80 Team, or to implement the 5y80 principles and structures into their already existing small group, group of three, or partnership. Remember, “what gets measured gets done.”

At the end of this meeting, make sure that everyone is given a copy of the **Survey Results Report** and a handout entitled **Handout for Individuals Who Would Like to Form, or be on, a 5y80™ Team**. Please put these on colored paper if possible. (Note: 5y80 Teams can be as large as 12 or as small as two (2), or any number in between, and are usually of the same gender.)

We recommend that you hold back on giving out information concerning Yellow Sheet Prayer Teams until your 5y80 Teams have gotten up and running for at least three (3) to six (6) months. Based on what people will say in their 14-Question Survey responses, you will definitively be more able to persuade them to get in, and stay in, a fully functioning 5y80 Team. However, if you don't make the best use of the survey data (in tandem with key Scriptures) you will have hurt your chances of succeeding now, or in the future, because **the survey data, once people see it for the first time, will never be as persuasive as it is the first time it is seen.** Additionally, if all the leadership doesn't get into a team themselves, and/or doesn't exhibit real stick-to-it-tive-ness during the weeks and months after the kickoff presentation, most people will not get their 5y80 Teams up and running. If the average American Christian really wants to grow concerning having a “Good Prayer Life,” and in the depth of their relationship with the Lord, most that have not gotten it done already, will not get it done without someone taking on this missions of leading, helping, and repeatedly encouraging. *Ultimately the leadership is the key.* Life is so busy, and the spiritual resistance can be greater than you or they think it is going to be. Leadership will need to focus on helping their people to get their 5y80 Teams setup and functioning properly. If the QuickCheck Card is not used, **leadership will need to be copied in on regular 5y80 Team measurements (but anonymously). This will be key to confirming and making progress** [The Long-Yellow Card can be helpful for tracking progress]. If our Christian leaders won't step up to the plate and try to help drive actual transformation and change, then we will have to live with what we currently have, and the nation may well see how the George Barna quote above, will continue to be the norm for the people making up the middle-or-the-bell-curve, probably for many more years to come. If we won't act now, then when will we?

Men and women, this is the moment, please mobilize your troops, you have the ability to help drive real change, real transformation, real victories on the spiritual front, won't you please at least try? If your churches will not drive spiritual growth for their middle-of-the-bell-curve individuals, God may be asking you (as an individual) to do it. **FORM YOUR OWN 5Y80 TEAM, OR PRAYERCORD, OR SPI SMALL GROUP, AND BE PART OF DRIVING THE GROWTH YOURSELF.** Keep in mind that 5y80 Teams can be as small as two (2), or as large as 12 (and are typically of the same gender). **The Grassroots Launches may have to be the key to success, if the churches abdicate their responsibility.**

“The church is not praying.” Face-to-face quote stated by David Bryant (Founder of Concerts of Prayer International). David Bryant is one of the most knowledgeable people in the country concerning the state of the American church regarding prayer.

“Neglect of prayer is a guarantee that we will not be victors” Richard Owen Roberts (Mr. Roberts is one of the foremost experts on the subject of revival, in the world.)

“Pastors and churches have to get uncomfortable enough to say, ‘We are not New Testament Christians if we don't have a prayer life.’ This conviction makes us squirm a little, but how else will there be a breakthrough with God?” Jim Cymbala in his book, Fresh Wind Fresh Fire p.51

[Cymbala's church in Brooklyn, New York, has a prayer meeting every Tuesday night that is attended by approximately 2,000 individuals. Cymbala, who travels a lot, has made a commitment to never miss the Tuesday night prayer meeting two times in a row. Additionally, special seating is always sectioned off at the front of the church, where all the leadership sits for these meetings, which are *mandatory* for the Brooklyn Tabernacle leaders. Dare we say, one of the reasons the people come is because their leaders, lead the way!]

Now please remember: we do have a strong suggestion for you. The strong suggestion is that most of you stop reading at this point, and implement Approach (A) and not even look at, or worry about Approaches (B) and (C).

We know Approach (A) can help you, we don't want to put extra work on your plate, if we don't have to. So, let's not let you get bogged down in more detail than you have to be. Just start out with Approach (A) and leave the following information for another day. [If at all possible, please consider adding the weekly QuickCheck Card tool to your Approach (A) implementation. We know that means more work, so don't at all feel like you have to.]

Approach (B) – In a second option of an A La Carte Approach, you are encouraged to use five (5) of the SPI Tools.

Furthermore, **three of the keys to success here** [as is true with all other launch options for congregations, or groups] **are:**

- 1) We can't say this enough—top leadership must be *totally* behind the effort and not just give lip service to the mission (if leadership will not walk-the-talk, it will be much more difficult to become successful).
- 2) There has to be a clear understanding among the leaders that helping the people who don't have one to realistically begin to pursue a *Good Prayer Life* and, for those that don't have one, to commit to growing into a *Deep Personal Relationship with the Lord*, ARE EXPECTATIONS. Moreover leadership needs to carry the convictions that these are not just casual or temporary objectives but are actually fundamental elements of any maturing Christian life. Being effective in these areas is also part of the transformation process that the Scriptures' ask of the Lord's people.
- 3) Lastly the leadership and the people must begin to think of these efforts as **a process not a program.** Something to be pursued for the long-term, not just for a while and then let die.

All walking-the-talk leaders must fully participate in one of the following three *SPI Growth Engines*: a 5y80 Team, a PrayerCord, or a SPI Small Group. Leaders should also, on an ongoing basis, encourage their flock to endeavor to maintain or develop, a "Good Prayer Life." Furthermore, the leaders (if they are not already doing so) should regularly encourage their flock that it is a desire of the Father's heart for them to continue actively drawing closer to Him and **to continue to prioritize developing a deep personal relationship with Him**, the One who desires for Himself, a Holy people that He can call His own. Deuteronomy 7:6, Titus 2:14, and 1 Peter 2:9.

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. . . ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the LORD, and he will lift you up." James 4:7-8, & 10 NIV

[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 Love to Pray by Dr. Alvin VanderGriend, at least one, two, or even three times. It is short (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.]

Approach (B) details:

Start out by doing THE 14-QUESTION SPI DIAGNOSTIC SURVEY with your congregation, service, or group.

(Again, this is always the starting point, for any type of launch, even with an individual.)

Next Tabulate The 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 its use, a 14-Question Survey Tabulation Sheet, a Short Survey Results Report Template to be filled in with your results, as well as another church's Survey Results Report with actual data.

After the Survey Results Report is done, the presentation of the survey results is made in conjunction with some key Scriptures (various Scriptural references are written out in **Appendix "B"** at the end of this document). Additionally, you will need to give an explanation of the three *SPI Growth Engines*: 5y80 Teams, PrayerCords, and SPI Small Groups. If you would like to use the QuickCheck Card, which is enormously helpful, but optional in **Approach (B)**, see below.

If you do plan to use the (optional) QuickCheck Card, this is the time to use the survey results and some key Scriptures (see the backside of the QuickCheck Card™, or Appendix "B") to make the very strong case for the use of the QuickCheck Card. **Building this strong case for use of the QuickCheck Card is imperative, if you are going to use this tool.** It is sort of like passing the baton at a relay race. If you have issues passing the baton, it can spell problems and even disaster. The baton in our case is to masterfully present the survey results and some key Scriptures to make a credible case to convince people to make changes in their lives and adopt these reasonable goals of transformation. If you make this case well, chances of success will go up sharply. Based on the key Scriptures and the survey results, you should be able to prepare and motivate those needing to improve to be willing to overcome their indifference and actually welcome change, and use new tools to advance their own prayer lives and their personal relationships with the Lord. If they are already doing well in these two areas, let them know that it would be very helpful for them to use a 5y80 Team or a PrayerCord to assist one or two others [or more, if they want to] to obtain a "Good Prayer Life," and a "Deep Personal Relationship" with the Lord. Some of the reasons their survey information is so important is that the survey questions (on the much longer survey we used to study the issues of prayer) have been instrumental in the Strategic Prayer Initiative identifying where the people are concerning many aspects of prayer. We then used that **knowledge to build, test, refine, and retest tools that have been designed to help people to realistically advance beyond where most are currently at, and overcome the seven (7) primary hurdles to successful prayer.** Moreover, the convictions from their personal responses to the 14-Questions work hand-in-glove to help you to help them, to achieve what they already believe the Lord wants for them, but has so far eluded very large numbers of them.

In this approach, you agree to explain to the group that leadership wants to ask everyone, including all leaders, to get into one of these three (3) main *SPI Growth Engines*: a 5y80 Team, a PrayerCord, or a SPI Small Group. If individuals are currently in some type of group that already meets regularly, clarify that leadership would not want them to disband, but rather to utilize SPI Tools and approaches with their existing group or partnership.

Following is a basic outline for implementing Approach (B):

1. Survey the group
2. Tabulate the surveys
3. Put the survey results into the template for a 14-Question Survey Results Report and create a formal **Survey Results Report** for your church or group. The first time these results are seen is when they're most powerful.
4. A few weeks after the survey is taken, use the sermon (or presentation) time to go over the survey results, key Scriptures, and the basics of each of the three (3) *SPI Growth Engines*. Also, explain that based on the survey results [*only if they warrant it*] leadership is encouraging all of the congregation, or all of the group, that is 18 years old or older, to start or become part of one of the three (3) following *SPI Growth Engines/Tools* (younger people are free to start one of these, or join one of these, if they would like to):
 - i. a 5y80 Team [As previously stated, this option is the easiest and least complicated of the three.]
 - ii. a PrayerCord – PrayerCords and SPI Small Groups both use the New Participant's Starter Packet.
 - iii. a SPI Small Group – Let people know you have Starter Packets available for those wanting one.
5. As previously stated, explain that if individuals are currently in some type of small group or partnership **that already meets** regularly, the leadership would **not want them to disband but** instead bring the basic growth features (found in the 5y80 Teams, PrayerCords, or SPI Small Groups) into their already existing small group, team, or partnership, etc.

6. If you have chosen to use the QuickCheck Card, do **the necessary QuickCheck Practice Run** at this time. See QuickCheck Card Practice Run Instructions in Appendix “A,” found towards the end of this document.

7. **Hand out the following three one-page documents (stapled together in the following order):**
 - i. The **Survey Results Report** for your group, or congregation [aggregate results only].
 - ii. The one-page document entitled – **“Handout for Individuals Who Would Like to Form, or be on, a 5y80 Team.”** [At www.SPIprayer.org, 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 **very simple explanation of the PrayerCords with a list of quotes/testimonials** (from various PrayerCord members, of one church), **listed on the backside of it.** (This is the first download under The PrayerCords System button.)

[If possible, we suggest using ivory colored paper for the Survey Results Report, white paper for the 5y80 handout and the color golden rod for the simple explanation of PrayerCords. This is not essential but colored paper does make the handouts a little more professional looking.]

The pastor, or presenter, must decide how much time he or she would need to adequately explain the three primary Growth Engines (5y80 Teams, PrayerCords, or SPI Small Groups). At this time, you will also need to mention the Strategic Prayer Data Sheets a.k.a. the **Pink Sheets**, and possibly make copies of the current one available. Everything can be explained the same day the presentation is made concerning the survey results but spending extra time on a second or third day could be very helpful, so you can be more thorough. Before the service or meeting ends, tell the group that there are **New Participant’s Starter Packets** available to anyone who would like one (and, if you want to, copies of the current month’s Pink Sheet). Explain that these packets are designed to be used when setting up a PrayerCord or a SPI Small Group. If you end up being short of New Participant’s Starter Packets, tell the people you will have some made up and will have them available the next time you meet. [For those starting a SPI Small Group, or adding the SPI materials to their already existing small group, they will need two additional documents: the longer Promise of Confidentiality Card and the Long-Yellow Card. Both of these documents are available by clicking on the PrayerCords System button available on the home page, as well as under “Tools.”

Approach (C) is an outlined approach that offers you a nine (9) or twelve (12) month first phase implementation plan and it takes into account seven (7) of the various SPI Tools [we prefer the 12-month option]. Approach (C) is one of our general recommendations. It is similar to a SPI FULL LAUNCH except that the PrayerCords and SPI Small Groups do not have to be explained and encouraged/recommended as strongly as they are in a FULL LAUNCH, nor is the use of the excellent small booklet **Love to Pray** required. In Approach (C) however, the use of the QuickCheck Card is required and is an important part of this recommended approach. If you feel compelled to do so, asking many people to strongly consider being in a PrayerCord or a SPI Small Group, versus just being on a 5y80 Team, can be very desirable. Doing so does add more complexity, but it also adds some additional components designed to help drive growth and transformation more effectively.

IN THIS APPROACH YOU WILL BE USING THE QUICKCHECK CARD AND 5y80 TEAMS. IT WILL BE UP TO YOU IF YOU WANT TO SOFT-PEDAL, OR PLAY UP, THE PRAYERCORDS AND SPI SMALL GROUPS. ADDITIONALLY, YOU MAKE THE CALL IF YOU ARE GOING TO USE **LOVE TO PRAY** OR NOT.

Implementation Outline for Group or Congregational SPI™ Launches:

DO THE 14-QUESTION SPI DIAGNOSTIC SURVEY with your congregation, service, or group.

(This is always the starting point, for any type of launch, even with an individual.)

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 its use, a 14-Question Survey Tabulation Sheet, a Short Survey Results Report Template (to be filled in with your results), **and another church’s Survey Results Report with actual data in it.**

A FEW WEEKS AFTER THE SURVEY IS DONE, SHARE THE RESULTS WITH THE GROUP THAT TOOK THE SURVEY [We suggest you use PowerPoint if possible.]. This is the time to use the survey results and some key Scriptures (referenced on the back side of the QuickCheck™ Card and written out in Appendix “B”) to make a strong case for use of the QuickCheck Card and the 5y80 Teams (and PrayerCords and SPI Small Groups, if you are going to present them in greater detail at this time). Yet, it must be emphasized that building this strong case for use of the QuickCheck Card and, at least, the 5y80 Teams is *imperative*. Remember, this mission of moving huge numbers of American Christians to “truly” be more effective in prayer, and certain aspects of spiritual warfare [*i.e. waking the sleeping giant*] is so difficult, that this opportunity, armed with the survey results, is probably your best chance to pitch (and successfully start implementing) one of the various SPI Implementation Approaches. Your group’s or congregation’s survey results will never be as cogent and compelling as they are when they are seen for the first time.

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” below, for Practice Run Instructions.)

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 golden rod colored paper for the simple explanation of PrayerCords. This is not essential, but colored paper does make the handouts a little more professional looking. We also suggest that the three documents be stapled together in the order they are listed above. 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, **if you want to (at this time)**, you can also mention 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. If you run out of these packets let people know that you will have some more made up and bring them to the next meeting. [Printing up some Small Group Confidentiality Cards and Long-Yellow Card is also helpful.]

[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.]

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. Your people should know that you expect to 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. Easy to understand graphs, showing the groups progress, should be shown to the group at least monthly. Data for these graphs comes from the QuickCheck Card results. SPI has some tools to help you with generating these graphs. After the initial measurement period you can change to measuring twice a month. [A phone app version of the QuickCheck Card may be available at this time.]

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS LATER INTRODUCE 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 a PrayerCord or a SPI Small Group. Let the people know that the Pink Sheet:

- ❖ typically, requires only one minute a day of prayer time.
- ❖ will easily strategically broaden almost all Christian's prayer lives, concerning the nation and the world.
- ❖ has 75% of the daily prayer items change monthly.
- ❖ can (although some would say there are better ways to do this) be completed each day by just muting one TV commercial break and using that time to pray for the particular day's Pink Sheet prayer request.
- ❖ The church (or group) will put a copy of each month's new Pink Sheet in the bulletin and/or have each new one emailed to them, before the end of each month.

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS AFTER introducing the Pink Sheet, INTRODUCE THE 8½" x 11" GREEN CARD entitled "What Does It Take To Have A "Good Prayer Life?" At minimum, talk the people briefly through this "Good Prayer Life" document. However, you might want to really consider having someone teach through this tool at this time. Doing so 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, we suggest you INTRODUCE LOVE TO PRAY A 40-Day Devotional for Deepening Your Prayer Life by Dr. Alvin VanderGriend. If you want to, and are able to, use Love to Pray, we suggest that 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. (The church will need to buy sufficient copies of Love to Pray in advance.) Furthermore, give them a formal date when the group officially starts going through the book together. As a way to defer some of the cost to the church, or group, we suggest asking everyone (if they can) to pitch in \$4.95 for their copy of this small 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 this small book. Quantity discounts are available. Going through this small book needs people to read just two (2) pages a day, five (5) days a week, for eight (8) weeks -- it is not overly demanding. [In the context of everyone reading Love to Pray, it would be good to remind the group of their responses to survey questions #2, #5, #9, and #10 – aggregate data only, never any individual data.]

APPROXIMATELY EIGHT WEEKS (8) after the group started going through Love to Pray together, INTRODUCE, OR REINTRODUCE THE NEW PARTICIPANT'S STARTER PACKETS. Tell the congregation or group that these packets are designed to be used when setting up, or advancing up to, a PrayerCord or a SPI Small Group. If possible, have someone take the time to go over and explain the basic components of the New Participant's Starter Packets. After the explanation, make full packets available to anyone who would like one. If you are short packets, tell the people you will have some more made up and will have them available the next time you meet. Also, print up some of the larger Promise of Confidentiality Cards needed for SPI Small Groups (green cardstock) and also Long-Yellow Cards for tracking (yellow cardstock). Finally, refresh the congregants, or group members, to some of their answers from the survey (e.g. #7, #8, #12, #13, and #14), that indicated reasons why it can be important to join a PrayerCord or to create a SPI Small Group, and how it can help them to grow spiritually.

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS after giving out the New Participant Starter Packets, HAND OUT MATERIALS CONCERNING YELLOW SHEET PRAYER TEAMS and introduce the group to the Team-Yellow Sheet Prayer Teams. Also, explain to the people that you will be looking for 31 individuals for your first Team-Yellow Sheet prayer experiment. This can and should lead to many more Team-Yellow Sheets and possibly General-Yellow Sheets, in the days and years ahead. [Go to Yellow Sheet Prayer Tools at www.SPIprayer.org and click on **Download 1 Full Packet**.]

Once the initial nine (9) or 12 month first phase implementation plan has been completed, our recommendation is that you go to using 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 begin to drop (now that you are measuring less frequently.) These three levels are derived from the main three questions on the QuickCheck Card, which are also known as *The Iron Triangle of Spiritual Warfare*. After the six months period, more changes will take place.

After Phase One of the SPI process (the nine (9) or 12 month time period), and when individuals have been in a PrayerCord or a SPI Small Group for at least six months, they have the option to move up to the next more advanced stages of the SPI Growth Engines. 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 a small group equivalent), participants can move up to the final stage, the NHB Stage a.k.a. the Nothing Held Back Stage. [5y80 Teams can move up to PrayerCords or SPI Small Groups at any time.]

APPENDIX “A”

If you or your leadership have decided to use the QuickCheck Card for Group Assessment,

as part of an A La Carte Launch,

you will need to do a practice run with the QuickCheck Card, on the same day that the survey results are shared.

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)

¹⁶Therefore, 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)

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,

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, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

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

²Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³At 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)

¹Finally, 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. ²²And 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)

¹² For 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)

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

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,

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

Luke 10:27a English Standard Version (ESV)

²⁷ And 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)

⁴ You 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. ⁵ Or 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?” ⁶ But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw 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)

⁷ And 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.” ⁸ And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ But 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. ¹⁰ Jesus stood up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹ She 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)

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

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

¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” ¹⁷ And 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)

⁵ Examine 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)

³ His 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. ¹⁰ Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. ¹¹ For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Appendix “C”

A Basic Implementation Outline for Group or Congregational SPI™ Launches:

DO THE 14 QUESTION SPI DIAGNOSTIC SURVEY Tabulate Results and create a Survey Results Report.

Go to www.SPIprayer.org and you can download copies of the Short 14-Question Survey, Instructions concerning how to administer it, a Short Survey Tabulation Sheet, a SPI Short **Survey Results Report Template to be filled in with your results**, and another church’s Survey Results Report with actual data in it.

A FEW WEEKS AFTER THE SURVEY IS DONE, SHARE THE RESULTS WITH THE GROUP THAT TOOK THE SURVEY. This is the time to use the survey results, and some key Scriptures (see backside of the QuickCheck™ Card, or Appendix “B”), to make **the very strong case for the use of the QuickCheck Card. Building a strong case for use of the QuickCheck Card is imperative. On the same day that the survey results are shared have a practice run of the QuickCheck with the entire group.** (See Appendix “A” for instructions concerning having a practice run of the QuickCheck Card.)

Furthermore, if you want to, you can mention that you have some New Participant’s Starter Packets, for anyone who would like to take one home. Let them know that these packets explain how to set up a PrayerCord™ or a SPI Small Group. Tell those present that if they take one of these Starter Packets, they are not obligated to setup a PrayerCord or a SPI Small Group at this time.

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 Card use. Our recommendation is doing 12 months versus nine (9).] Easy to understand graphs showing the groups progress should be shown to the group at least monthly and can be done more often than monthly. Data for these graphs comes from the QuickCheck Card results. SPI has some tools to help you with generating these graphs. After the initial measurement period you can change to measuring twice a month. [A phone app version of the QuickCheck Card may be available at this time.]

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS LATER INTRODUCE 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 they 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.]

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

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS after introducing the What Does It Take To Have A “Good Prayer Life?” document, INTRODUCE LOVE TO PRAY A 40-Day Devotional for Deepening Your Prayer Life by Dr. Alvin VanderGriend. Use of Love to Pray with the whole congregation or group is optional, but it is viewed as one of the keys with previous successes.

If you chose to use it, explain to the congregation, or group, that you are asking everyone to get a copy of this vitally important tool, today, or next week. Furthermore, give them a formal date (two or three weeks after getting copies of the book) when the group, together, formally starts going through the book. Ask everyone in the group, if they can, to pitch in \$4.95 for their copy of this small book. If helpful they can pay \$2.95, or if needed they can pay \$1.00 (or nothing), but they must have a copy of the book. [Going through this small book needs people to read just 2 pages a day, 5 days a week, for 8 weeks -- it is not overly demanding.] You might want to remind the group of the responses they gave to some of the of survey questions, for example #2, #5, #9, and #10.

APPROXIMATELY EIGHT WEEKS (8) after the group started going through Love to Pray together, INTRODUCE, OR REINTRODUCE THE NEW PARTICANT’S STARTER PACKETS, THIS TIME BY GIVING A COPY OUT TO EVERYONE IN THE GROUP. If possible, spend as much time as needed to fully explain the Starter Packets that are in their hands. Refresh the congregants, or group members, to some of their answers from the survey (e.g. #7, #8, #12, #13, and #14), that indicated reasons why it can be important to join a PrayerCord or to create a SPI Small Group, and how it can help them to grow spiritually.

APPROXIMATELY FOUR (4) WEEKS after giving out the New Participant’s Starter Packets, HAND OUT THE MATERIALS CONCERNING YELLOW SHEET PRAYER TEAMS and introduce the group to the General and Team-Yellow Sheet Prayer Teams. Also, explain to the people that you will be looking for 31 individuals for the first Team-Yellow Sheet Prayer experiment.