PRAYING FOR THE LOST

Summary of prayer points

1. Pray for the removal of strongholds

2 Cor. 10:4-5 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world, on the contrary, they have divine power to <u>demolish</u> strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God

Prayer against arguments and pretensions that stop people coming to the knowledge of God

Matthew 16:19 I give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven

2. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open the eyes of their understanding

2 Cor. 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Loose their minds from Satan's deception, from wrong understanding so they can see the truth – the light of the gospel

Ephesians 1:18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you....

3. Pray that they will get a <u>revelation</u> of God and their need for salvation

Matthew 16:17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.

Pray that God would reveal himself to them, reveal his love for them

1 Cor. 2:6-8. But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." <u>But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit</u>.

4. Pray for God to draw them to himself

John 6:44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me <u>draws</u> him

It is not in our fallen human nature to take the initiative to come to the Lord (we like sheep have all gone astray)

5. Pray that they begin a spiritual journey to know God

God created man for a relationship with him, but he doesn't force us to accept him, but it is his intention and desire that they do. God created the world for us

Acts 17:27 God did this so that men would seek him, and perhaps reach out for him and find him

Pray that they would start to ask questions, that they would desire truth

6. Pray for the Holy Spirit to bring conviction of sin

John 16:8 When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regards to sin and righteousness and judgment.

Without it they will see no need for a saviour. Pray that their consciences will be awakened to right and wrong

7. Pray for God's goodness to lead them to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9b God is not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Romans 2:4 tells us that it is - the goodness of God leads us to repentance

Pray for God to extend his goodness to them that would lead them to repent and call on the name of the Lord and be saved

8. Pray that the Holy Spirit would soften their hearts.

Hebrews 4:7 "Today if you hear his voice do not harden your hearts"

Pray that God would soften and open the hearts of those you are praying for

9. Pray for a divine visitation

Job 10:12KJV Thou hast granted me life and favour, and thy visitation hath preserved my spirit.

Scripture is full of examples of God supernaturally visiting people – A visitation of God always changes destiny

10. Pray that they would believe the Gospel

1 Thessalonians 2:13 And we also thank God continually, because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe

Pray this after you have shared the Gospel – faith comes by hearing

God watches over his word to confirm it - Jeremiah 1:12, Isaiah 55:11