

Find Spiritual Sharers

— June —

We long to see God raise up disciples in Italy who multiply; making disciples who make disciples.

~Below you will find a suggested amount of time for each segment of your meeting, but don't feel bound by these suggestions. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead your prayer time together.

10 Minutes- Mix and Mingle

Use this time to catch up and get settled before your time of prayer.

10 Minutes- Praise

Before taking time to intercede, praise God for who He is and how He has recently shown Himself to you.

Speak His names out loud (God, You are Savior, You are King, etc.), and His character (God, Your love is unconditional, You are always present).

Praise God for the ways He has been working in and through You. (God, thank You for providing for my family, Thank You for giving me patience yesterday, etc.)

10 Minutes- Personal Surrender and Confession

Personal Surrender

Before interceding on behalf of the people of Italy, surrender the worries of your life that may distract you during this prayer time. Take a moment to write down on a piece of paper any concerns that are on your mind. Is it your finances? Is it a relationship? Jot that down. Then in your heart, give these concerns over to the Lord.

Confession

Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you of any disbelief or sin that you have been giving in to. Take a moment in your heart to confess these to the Lord and receive His grace and forgiveness.

*15 Minutes- Prayer through the Word

Theme - Find Spiritual Sharers

This month we are asking God to show the believers in Italy the people He has prepared to receive the Good News and pass it on to others.

Luke 10:1-3

“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.’”

Prayer Points for Italy

- God, we ask You to prepare "spiritual sharers" in Italy and reveal them to the Italian believers.
- God, we ask you to embolden believers in Italy to seek out these "spiritual sharers."
- God, we ask You to send more workers to Italy.

John 1:40-42

“Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas’ (which, when translated, is Peter).”

Prayer Points for Italy

- God, we ask for You to embolden believers in Italy to share Your truth with their families and friends.
- God, we ask You to create natural pathways for believers in Italy to share their faith with others.
- God, we ask You to tune Italian believers' hearts to hear and recognize Your voice when You prompt them to share their faith with others.

*15 Minutes- Intercession for Italy

Below are some insights on spiritual strongholds that block people from being spiritually open to Jesus. Please read the text out loud and then pause so participants can pray as God leads.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Spirit of Good Works

People from all the different religions believe that being a good person is good enough. Whether through religious traditions or through good deeds, they hope that they are good enough to be accepted by God.

Distraction and Apathy

Due to Italy's relatively high standard of living they do not sense a physical lack. With the recent economic crisis, they have become increasingly consumed by work and materialism. They want to keep living the good life like the rich man in the parable Jesus told (Luke 16:19-31). This kind of lifestyle keeps them from reflecting on the most important issues of life, and it leaves them apathetic towards anything that doesn't provide instant gratification.

Science, Evolution, Atheism

Like most of the Western Hemisphere, many Italians have made science their religion. They have believed the lie that only what science can explain is truth, and the lie that God and science oppose each other. This, combined with a poor representation of Jesus, has led many to believe we are just evolved animals who will one day die and cease to exist.

10 Minutes- Listening Prayer

On a blank piece of paper, ask the Lord the following questions. Be still and listen. Write down any words or thoughts that come to mind.

- God, what is keeping believers in Italy from sharing their faith with others?
- God, how do You want to reveal Yourself to the Italian people?

After jotting down these thoughts, share them with a partner or your group. Now spend time praying to God for the things He has put on your heart.

5 Minutes- Closing

We want to hear from you. Take a moment to debrief your prayer time. Are there themes, thoughts or passages that God has laid on your heart for the people of Italy? Take a moment to write these down as a group and give them to your small group facilitator. (Small group facilitator- please email these to your contact person in Italy.)

**NOTE: To use this guide for 30 minutes of prayer versus 60, focus your time on the two, 15 minute sections.*