

Policy for Prayer Chain

Adopted 1-27-21

The stated purpose of the prayer chain is to alert those who desire to be notified to the imminent or impending crisis of:

1. Active Church Members (see Amendment 2, Section 4 for clarification in the NRF By-Laws and Constitution)
2. Active Church Members immediate family, i.e. spouse, children.
3. Active Church Members extended family, i.e. parents, siblings, grand-parents, grand-children. **Note:** Aunts, cousins, family friends, and so on should not be used in the prayer chain but referred to small group members, Sunday School class, Pastor/Elder or assigned Deacon.
4. Regular attenders.

The reason for these defined parameters is to protect the integrity and effectiveness of our prayer chain. We must remember that those who are on the prayer chain are expecting to be notified of what could be referred to as “lights and sirens” events. This includes high risk surgeries and or legal/familial or other non-medical emergency situations in which the outcome could be catastrophic.

-Details to include in prayer chain notification-

1. Do not include unnecessary names, or details that are sensitive should the person you are referencing find out. **Be Discreet.**
2. Do not ramble in the request given. Unnecessary narrative is distracting and uses too much space in the texting format. **Be Concise.**
3. Use the following format to compose your request for the prayer chain:

- a. From: (Your Name)
- b. For: (Persons name if appropriate and relation)
- c. Pray for: **Be Clear** (Please pray for my brother Jim who was just admitted to the emergency room from a massive stroke.) or (Please pray for my Dad who is suffering from extreme depression and needs God to intervene so he will get the help he needs.)
- d. Upon the outcome it is desired that a follow-up text be sent so that people can know the result.

-Response Text for Non-Eligible Requests-

Should someone send a prayer request to the coordinator that does not meet these criteria a pre-approved Elder response text will be sent:

“In keeping with our prayer chain policy, you need to forward this prayer request to your small group, Sunday school teacher/class-member, or assigned Deacon. For clarification please reference the included link...”

-All Other Important but Non-Member Related Requests-

We all have friends and family that sometimes are in deep need for prayer. We are commanded by Scripture to pray for them. However, these types of requests should not be used on the prayer chain but rather disseminated to those in church on a personal one on one basis, Sunday school class, Pastor/Elder or assigned Deacon.