the prayer course

unanswered prayer
the prayer course II

Online

A Complete Guide

prayercourse.org

Welcome

Here, you'll find practical information for digitally running a Prayer Course with your small group.

There's also a section in this guide which covers permission for including a Prayer Course video in your Church's Sunday service video or livestream.

If you have any questions, email us:
info@prayercourse.org

Prayer Course online

A guide for Small Groups

We recommend using video call software to effectively run a prayer course online. There are many different free programs available, including *Zoom*, *Skype* and *Google Hangouts*.

1

Before Your Prayer Course online session begins

- Decide which video call program you'll be using and set up a meeting invite.
- Allow time for you and your group to familiarise yourself with the program by sending the invite out ahead of time, and explain if any downloads are required, or log ins created.

  (You might like to allocate one person in your group to be responsible for creating the meeting invites and sending them out.)
- Allocate someone to lead through each session. This could be the group leader every week, or you could alternate so that everyone has a chance to lead.

  This person will be responsible for reading through the Small Group study guide, available for each week under the sessions page:
  prayercourse.org/sessions
  unanswered.prayercourse.org/sessions

2

Beginning your Prayer Course online session

- Allow time for everyone to arrive and log into the online meeting
- The session leader begins by introducing the session and opening in prayer

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Watching the video online

We recommend that group members watch each video separately on their own device, rather than one person sharing the screen and the group watching over video software.

This is because there can sometimes be sound or quality problems when using this format.

Instead:

- The session leader shares the link to the video in the group chat (available on YouTube or on the Prayer Course website)
- Everyone mutes their sound and watches the session on their own device (allow 20-35 minutes for this, depending on the session length)
- Everyone comes back together to chat through the discussion questions

4

Discussion questions online

- The session leader leads through the discussion questions, giving everyone a chance to respond
- Remember that some people may be less keen to speak on a video call than in a small group setting – allow space and time. Don't be afraid of silence!
- If you find that people are talking over one another, you might find it helpful to use a 'hand raise' system, where people indicate if they would like to say something

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Praying together online

- If your group is large, you might like to split into smaller video calls to pray together. Some video programs also include "breakout room" functionality which splits your call into smaller groups
- If it's not possible to split into smaller groups, pray together by allocating specific people to pray for one another.
- You also might find an allocated order is helpful so that everyone is given an opportunity to pray.
- Some people may find it more challenging to pray over video call. Allow time and space for this. You might find it helpful to encourage people to type their prayers in the group chat, too.

Prayer Course online

Alternative small group ideas

Not every group will be able to use video call programs.

Here are a few alternative ideas:

Group voice calls

For groups without video functionality, this follows the same format as above but uses a group call rather than video.

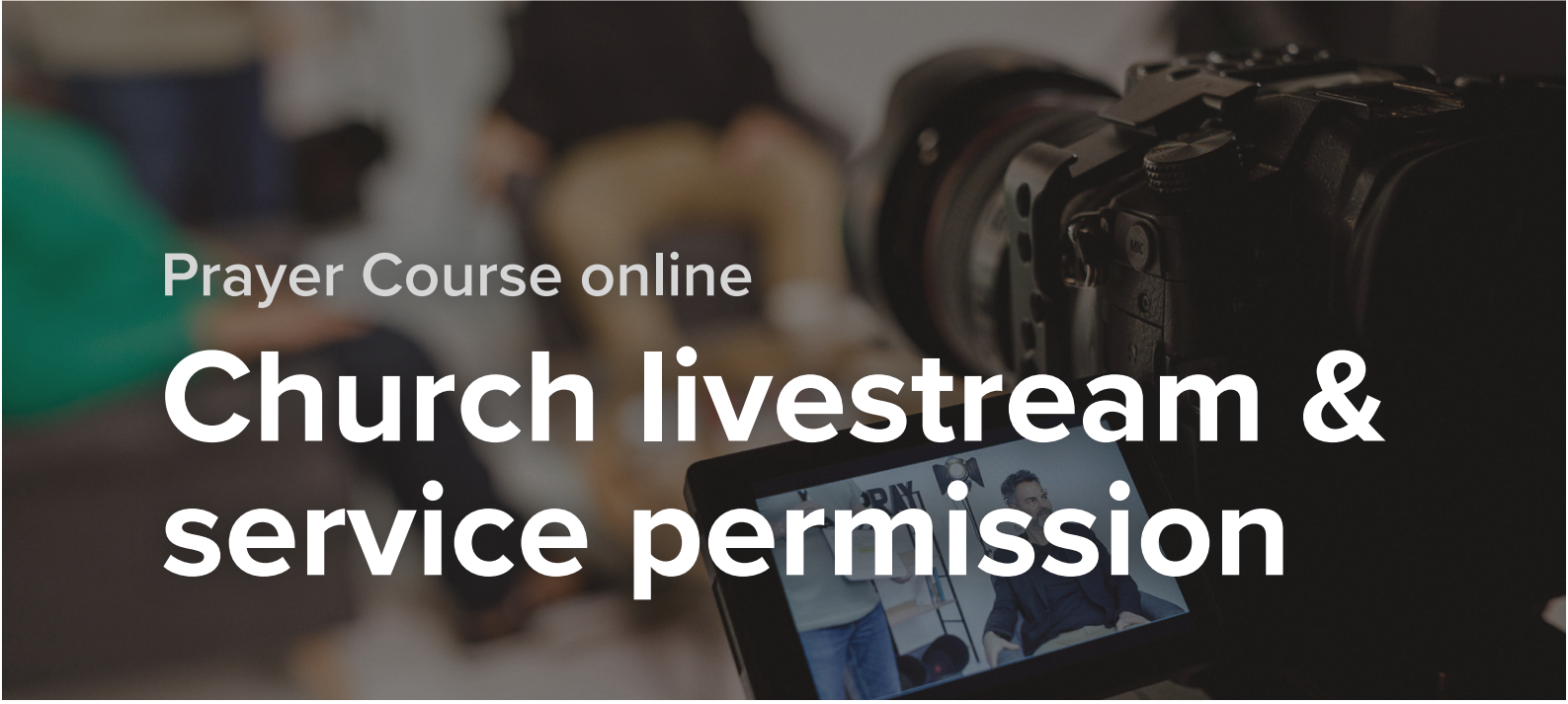
One-to-one phone calls

Split your small group into pairs, and encourage people to do the course over a regular phone call.

For this method, it might work best to watch the video before calling, and then talk through the discussion questions together.

Individually but together

For groups who find it challenging to meet together, you might like to post the link to the session and questions to everyone, and encourage feedback via a message throughout the week. You could also ask discussion questions as separate messages and encourage responses.



Prayer Course online

Church livestream & service permission

If you would like to embed a Prayer Course video into your Church service video or live stream, please consider the following:

✓ Do

- Do credit 24-7 Prayer for producing the content
- Do link to the Prayer Course website by showing the URL on screen or mentioning it: **www.prayercourse.org**
- Do invite your community to check out further resources and prayer tools on the Prayer Course website

✗ Don't

- Don't edit the Prayer Course video. This includes cropping or cutting content.
- Don't charge money for people to watch the Prayer Course video.
- Don't distribute the Prayer Course video to people outside of your community.
- Don't re-upload the Prayer Course video to your website, YouTube or Facebook channel. Instead, embed the episode from 24-7 Prayer's Youtube channel (**youtube.com/247pray**) or link to the Prayer Course sessions page.

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Start online now

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