

## Questions and Answers about Prayer Ministry at Maze PC

### What is prayer ministry?

Prayer Ministry can be defined as when someone (or usually two people) prays for another, at their request, to minister Jesus (His presence, His word, His healing and His love) to that person.

It is always God who ministers through us in the name of Jesus, directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We have nothing to offer people except Jesus. The ministry is always Jesus' ministry, not ours.

The healing and blessing that may come from Prayer Ministry are the direct result of what Christ did on the Cross (He carried our sorrows, sicknesses and our sins) – the Fall brought sin, sickness and death, but the work of Christ through the Cross is the remedy for all of these.

### Why introduce it here in Maze PC?

Everyone at various points in their lives come across issues that seem too large for them to handle by simply praying themselves or with friends or family members.

Simply being able to share these issues with caring Christian brothers and sisters who are willing to listen and then to pray directly in the power of the Holy Spirit for a person's healing whether that is emotionally, spiritually or physically in Jesus name, and proclaim the blessing of Jesus and our Heavenly Father over their situation can make a real difference and bring healing and wholeness to the individual receiving the prayer ministry.

### Who might benefit from engaging with prayer ministry and is it confidential?

Everyone who is 18 years or older can benefit from and avail of prayer ministry, so we want to encourage and give everyone attending the Maze PC Sunday morning services the opportunity to receive prayer ministry at points in their lives when they require it.

Whatever is prayed for is kept in confidence as long as what has been disclosed is within the law. Any prayer requests will not go beyond the two prayer ministers and the person coming forward for prayer, the third prayer ministry team member on duty who is introducing people to the pair praying won't even be told anything about what was prayed for that morning.

### When will prayer ministry be offered and where will the prayer ministry take place?

Prayer Ministry will be offered every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday every month between 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in August and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in June. There will be no prayer ministry offered in July or early August.

The prayer ministry will take place to the right of the platform where the Purple "prayer ministry" banner is located just through the double doors.

A member of the prayer ministry team will welcome you and introduce you to the 2 team members who will pray with you and you will sit down with them.

For confidentiality the person being prayed for will have their back turned to the main sanctuary however the ministry is offered within sight of the main Sanctuary rather than in a separate room so that people understand that it is a ministry they can freely avail off after Sunday morning services.

## Is there anything the wider congregation at Maze PC can do to support this work?

1, The Prayer ministry team members need everyone in the Maze PC congregation to pray for us, particularly during the time when we are offering prayer ministry to others. but also during the weeks in-between. We also need you to pray for our families and to pray that we stay close in our walk with God.

2. Pray specifically for the prayer ministry that the **Holy Spirit** will lead people who need prayer ministry to come forward to receive it. That fear, anxiety or apathy or pride will not hinder people and they will feel free to come forward and receive prayer ministry for themselves.

3. Pray that God will protect the prayer ministry work and its team members from the Evil One. When we embark on Prayer Ministry we embark on spiritual warfare as a congregation and we need to recognise this and pray earnestly about it.

## Where can someone find out more about prayer ministry at Maze PC ?

1. The A6 postcard answering questions about prayer ministry will always be available in the front of the pews and on the leaflet table in the foyer.
2. There is a full Maze PC Principles and Practice Guidelines document on Prayer Ministry on the Maze PC website with links to it in the Maze PC email newsletters.
3. You can watch the recording of the prayer ministry interview which took place on Sunday 25 June 2023 published on the Maze YouTube channel.
4. You can have an informal chat and can ask any of the Prayer Team members any questions you want answered about prayer ministry.

## Who will be involved in the prayer ministry at Maze PC?

There will be 6 team members initially, but as the ministry develops other people may feel the calling to Prayer Ministry and come forward to attend and complete a Prayer Ministry training course approved by Session and subsequently join the team (subject to Session approval); so the team may grow in time.

All the members in the team are Christians who have completed a Prayer Ministry course approved by Session and are communicant members of Maze PC.

We have kept the team balanced in terms of gender as it is good practice to offer prayer ministry in mixed gender pairs of prayer ministers.

For further information on Prayer Ministry check out the **Prayer Ministry in Maze Presbyterian Church Principles and Practice Guidelines** document found on the prayer ministry page of the Maze PC website or alternatively talk to one of the Prayer Ministry Team at Maze PC.