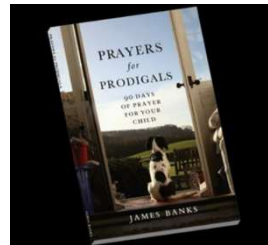




How to start a prodigal ministry:

- Choose someone with a burden for prodigals to lead the prayer ministry. Typically, someone with a prodigal or a restored prodigal will feel the burden.
- Purchase bottles for names of prodigals at a local home goods store or online. We offer decals and a link to purchase the bottles on our website.
- Schedule and remind participants of the semi-annual 90-day prayer journeys: April 1–June 29 and October 1–December 29, using the book *Prayers for Prodigals* by Dr. James Banks. The book will help you focus and pray effective prayers. The book is available for purchase on our website:

hopeforprodigals.com/products



- Establish a time to pray for prodigals on a consistent basis, preferably weekly. Every church or prayer group does it differently. We suggest displaying the bottles in a visible place where people can add names at any time. When they're on display, it serves as a visible reminder to pray for them. Our bottles are on the platform, and we gather around them to pray over the bottles every Sunday during the offering and on Wednesdays during prayer meeting. Some churches have the bottles on display in their prayer room; others have a display in the hallway or foyer. We provide pens and slips of paper for the names. We never remove any names, because they will need prayer even after they're restored. They will face things we may never face because of their past experiences.
- When I introduce the ministry, I speak for a few minutes about the journey with our prodigal son who was away from the Lord for eight years. During the presentation, I share a few testimonies of restored prodigals using a PowerPoint presentation. At the end of the presentation, I have everyone gather around the front, place the names of their prodigals in the bottles, and we all unite in prayer for the prodigals. This has always been a very moving time of prayer as people bring their prodigals to the Lord and they feel the support of their brothers and sisters praying with them. It helps them realize they are not alone on their journey. I recommend a similar presentation to bring awareness to the ministry.
- Encourage people to get involved. Most people have someone in their family, or a friend, who is a prodigal. In addition to the July–October prayer journey, World Network of Prayer has designated the first Sunday in October as Prodigal Day. That is a good time to focus on testimonies and a dedicated day of prayer for prodigals by the entire church.
- Follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/HOPEforProdigals) and Instagram (instagram.com/hopeforprodigals/) for testimonies and encouraging posts. Check our website for testimonies and resources: hopeforprodigals.com
- Lastly, and most importantly, PRAY for Prodigals. The 90-day devotional can be used at any time, but we have churches in around 40 states and almost as many countries uniting with us during the semi-annual 90-day prayer journeys beginning in April and October, when there is a united effort.