

Go On Prayer-cation

By Lee Yates

Create a prayer center focused on your summer travels and those of the special people in your life. By praying over your own travels and standing in prayer for those who are traveling, you will name God's presence in some unexpected places and remember God's presence everywhere you go.

For

Young Adult

Season

Summer



Needed

Small table or shelf space, calendar for summer months, pen or markers, symbols based on summer activities

Prepare in Advance

Ask friends and family to share their vacation and special travel dates with you.

Activity Plan

1. Choose a space for your prayer center that will remain clear of distractions and can be left out for the summer. Once you have a clear space, say this prayer aloud to begin.
Lord of Time and Space, bless this prayer center. May it be a reminder of your presence in all times and all places. Amen.
2. Place calendar pages for summer months on your prayer center.
 - Mark the travels of family and friends on the appropriate dates. Include your own travel plans.
 - Decorate the calendar squares to represent the activities that will take place on those days. For example, if someone is going camping, you can draw a tent. If you are not the artistic type, feel free to write a description of the activity.
3. Place some symbols of the events on your calendar around your prayer center. For example, if someone is going to the beach you can place a shell. Pictures are an easy way to decorate your prayer center.
4. Take time each day to say a prayer for those traveling or vacationing on that day. Lift up special events that will be experienced. You can find a consistent time each day or move your prayer time around as your schedule allows. This time doesn't have to be long, but should be specific to the day. If nothing is happening on that day in your calendar you can pray for those you do not know saying something like this:
Lord, Bless those who travel, children who play, parents who wish they could do more and families that struggle to feed their children without the support of school meal programs. Help us all remember the blessings and struggles of this season.
5. In your own travels, take note of unexpected places you felt God's presence and write them on your calendar or represent them with a symbol in your prayer center when you get home.
6. At the end of the Summer, give thanks for the ways people saw God and take the prayer center down. You might even want to give others some of the symbols you used to pray for them on their travels as a way of sharing how you held them in prayer.