

# Ebenezer Prayer Chain: Information for those requesting prayer

The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

*Philippians 4:5b-7 (NIV)*

## What is the Prayer Chain?

The Prayer Chain is a group of people who are Members of Ebenezer who have committed to pray for the LORD's intervention in acute, emergency situations. Often, but not exclusively, these are health issues.

## Can I ask the Prayer Chain to pray for me?

If you worship at Ebenezer you can ask for prayer for yourself. You can ask for this to be made anonymous.



## Can I ask the Prayer Chain to pray for my family member, friend, work colleague?

If you are asking for prayer for a family member, friend or work colleague, you **must** ask their permission to share their information. This is an opportunity to share your faith.

If you have not asked or have asked but not been given permission you **must** make the request **anonymous** (see below for an example).

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Romans 15:13 (NIV)*

### How does it operate?

You ring the Prayer Chain Co-ordinator (Eunice Brewster) on her mobile and describe the issue, and what the prayer request is. If it is not anonymous, the Co-ordinator will ask if you have obtained permission. If not, the request will be anonymous. The Co-ordinator then sends a text to the Prayer Chain Distributer (Viv Games), who then forwards the text to everyone on the Prayer Chain.

Everyone on the Prayer Chain commits to pray for the request.

### What next?

When appropriate you may ring the Co-ordinator with

- an update;
- a further prayer request;
- and/or answered prayer.

This is then texted out as above for ongoing prayer, thanksgiving, praise, as appropriate.

## Why do I need to ask permission to share information?

GDPR ( General Data Protection Regulation) is to protect all EU citizens from privacy and data breaches in an increasingly data-driven world. The prayer request is personal and sensitive, and it is sent out by text, so a breach of GDPR could have serious and costly consequences for both the individual concerned and for Ebenezer (a fine of up to £20 million).

### Anonymous is more than not naming the person.

Imagine that Mary wants to ask for prayer for her son, John, who is going to have an operation.

Mary hasn't had the opportunity to ask her son's permission because he has been rushed into hospital.

Can the Co-ordinator send out a request "Please pray for Mary's son who is having an operation?" **No.**

**Why not?** Because Mary's son hasn't given permission and he can be identified in the text even though he is not named.

The text should read "Please pray for a man who has been rushed into hospital and is going to have an operation"



## How do I know that my information is safe on the Prayer Chain's mobiles?

Everyone on the Prayer Chain *must* have their mobile password/passcode protected.

The text of the prayer request *must* be deleted from the mobiles of the Coordinator, Distributor and every recipient after they have prayed for the situation.

## Some people keep a Prayer Journal: is that safe?

If anyone records a prayer request in a Prayer Journal, it *must* be made anonymous.

## Could my request be passed on beyond the Prayer Chain?

A Prayer Request is confidential, and will not be forwarded to or discussed with *anyone* else, within or beyond Ebenezer.

## How do I contact the Prayer Co-ordinator?

Contact Eunice Brewster on her mobile: 07881 246 339.

If you do not get a response within half an hour, ring her landline: 01723 369468.

If Eunice is away, contact Viv Games on 07986 510 769

He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favour granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

*2 Corinthians 1:10, 11 (NIV)*

