

Releasing the Lost into the Kingdom of God

“And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” (2 Cor. 4:3,4)

- Pray that the person’s heart be prepared, so that it will be “good soil” for the seed (Mk. 4:8).
- Pray that Satan will not be able to steal the seeds of truth (see Mk. 4:15, and that nothing else will be able to destroy the seeds--Mk. 4:16-19).
- Pray that the Word becomes revelation through the lifting of the veil (2 Cor. 4:3,4. An excellent prayer to use is Ephesians 1:17: *“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.”*)
- Pray that the root of pride in them be broken (2 Cor. 10:3-5).
- Pray that the person come to true repentance (2 Pet. 3:9 and 2 Tim. 2:25,26: *“God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil having been held captive by him to do his will.”*)

“For though we live in the world, we do not war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ” (2 Cor. 10:3-5).

In daily prayer:

- Ask God to help you identify and then destroy the strongholds which protect the person’s belief system (includes calculative reasoning; wisdom or logic; accumulated wisdom and information learned over time; what one really believes—the person’s mindset. Also includes philosophies, religions, humanism, atheism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, racism, intellectualism, Judaism, materialism, roots of rejection, perversions, alcoholism, other addictions that cause a person to think a certain way). “In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I am destroying you, stronghold of _____.

GOD’S WEAPONS

- All forms of prayer. Supplication, agreement with other Christians), travail, praying in the Spirit, binding and loosing—any biblical form of prayer. (Ephesians 6:18)
- Praise. Always praise God for the salvation of the one(s) for whom you are praying. (Psalm 149:5-9)
- The Word of God. Speaking Scriptures that apply to your situation releases great power against the enemy. (Ephesians 6:17b)
- The name of Jesus. Praying in the name of Jesus is a powerful weapon against demonic powers and strongholds. (Luke 10:17)

- Demolish “every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God” or the root of pride (involves a desire to rule our own lives, decide for ourselves right and wrong and basically be our own god).
- Take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ (refers to spontaneous thoughts and temptations Satan uses to assault the unbelievers, as well as the schemes and plans he uses to keep them in darkness). Ask God to shield the unbeliever from Satan’s thoughts and temptations.

(Taken from *How to Pray for Lost Loved Ones* © 2001 Dutch Sheets)

It is our prayer that this guide will be helpful to you as you adapt it to your church’s denominational and theological flavor.