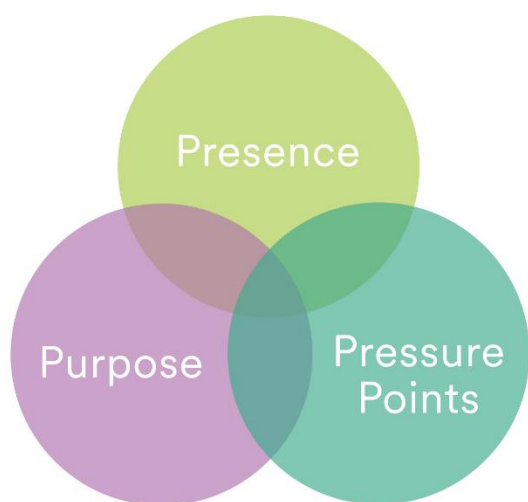


PRAYING WITH WORKING PEOPLE



This is a simple model of prayer that can be used when you pray with working people, or that they can use by themselves and with others in a small group. It offers a place in which they can be real with you as their pastor, with God or with trusted friends about the challenges they face at work, but it also helps them to orient their prayers towards God's purposes for them at work.

Approach

Let's assume that you have been talking with someone about their working life. When you come to prayer with them, try the following approach:

Presence – spend a short time enjoying the presence of God together. You might start with a moment of silence, or perhaps read a Psalm together. But this is a time to listen more than talk to God; to become aware of his love and keen interest in both the worker and their work.

Pressure points – allow time to bring any challenges they are facing before God and to ask for his help: providing wisdom where they are unsure what to do; or insights if a new strategy is needed; or perhaps asking God to shine his light into dark places at work where the enemy seems to have the upper hand.

Purpose – an opportunity to discern and pray together towards God's purposes for them at work, and for those they work alongside. What might God be doing in and through them? Are there things that in his strength they might change or influence in some way for the good?

You might find praying through the 6Ms a helpful way of discerning purpose together:

- What can I pray for you personally? (*Modelling Godly Character*)
- What can I pray for your current workload? (*Making Good Work*)
- What can I pray for your colleagues/clients? (*Ministering Grace and Love*)
- What can I pray for your workplace? (*Moulding Culture*)
- Are there any issues of fairness, gossip or politicking in your workplace at present? (*Mouthpiece for Truth and Justice*)
- Whose salvation could I pray for? (*Messenger of the Gospel*)

This PPP approach to praying with working people puts God at the centre of their workplace context, acknowledges the challenges they face, and encourages a purposeful posture. As you model PPP prayer with working people you will help to equip them to become increasingly prayerful themselves and with others as they seek to join in what God is doing in and through them at work.