

# name above all names

## RELIGIOUS SITES PRAYER DRIVING GUIDE

### 1 What is Prayer Driving?

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Prayer driving is praying with our eyes open while we drive to, and possibly stop at, several religious places of worship. Prayer driving is intentional prayer toward the Great Commission. We pray for the gospel to impress upon the hearts of those we see and for those we don't see. An example of a Great Commission prayer is Matthew 6: 9-10,

**"Our Father who art in heaven Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."**

In heaven, we will spend eternity in worship with people from every nation, tribe, and tongue, but until then, God has commissioned us to share the gospel until everyone has heard.

**"...behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" Revelation 7:9-10**

### 2 Prayer Driving is spiritual warfare prayer.

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Have you experienced other religions before, either by practicing them or witnessing others practice them? As Christians, we know that putting other gods before the Most High God is against the first commandment. As we explore and learn about these other religions, it exposes us to the reality of the depths of the spiritual world. Thankfully, as Christians, we are protected by God;

Paul shares in Acts 26:18 as he shares his testimony to King Agrippa that Jesus had called him to the gentiles, **"to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me."**

Paul says in II Corinthians 10:4 **" for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses."** However, we have Jesus' promise in Matthew 16:18 B, **"I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it."**

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Still, He calls us to war against the enemy and we must put on the armor of God, as we see in Ephesians 6:11-20, to wrestle against any enemies or spiritual forces, as we pray the name of Jesus in places where other gods are worshiped;

**"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places...."**

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### 3 Prayer Driving is vision-oriented prayer.

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As you see these temples and places of worship for false gods, or even witness someone bowing down to worship an idol, just as Jesus had compassion, and because of the Holy Spirit living in you, you may experience that same compassion;

**“And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers in His harvest.” Matthew 9:36-38**

Respond as Jesus would. Let your heart be broken for these people, and fight for their salvation through prayer. Boldly pray for Jesus to make himself known to these people. If you have the opportunity and the Spirit leads you, share the gospel with them, and be part of the answer to Jesus’ prayer for workers to be sent out.

### 4 Prayer points

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- Pray for receptive hearts from these particular religious groups.
  - Pray for their spiritual eyes and ears to be opened toward the gospel.
  - Pray for the unbelievers to have and understand God’s attitude toward sin.
  - Pray for the lost to be released from barriers and strongholds that hinder them from coming to Christ.
  - Pray for unbelievers to experience a transforming life in Christ.
  - Pray for Christian witnesses to be sent to share Christ with the lost.
  - Pray for workers to be sent to the harvest fields of these people groups, both here and the countries/places where they originate from.
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## **1 Nanak Darbar Gurdwara | 111 Harrison Rd., Duncan, SC 29334**

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- Sikhism is a religion that was started in the Punjab area of India. You can often tell Sikh men by their beards and the turbans they wear and a silver bracelet. It is a mix of Hinduism and Islam. It was founded in 1469. They follow the teaching of their founder Guru Nanak and nine other subsequent gurus. Their holy book is called Guru Granth Sahib. Main beliefs are meditation on god's name, selfless service, living an honest lifestyle and sharing with others. There is a heavy emphasis on works.

## **2 Community of Khmer Buddhist Monk Temple | 841 Shiloh Church Rd., Wellford, SC 29385**

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- Mainly Cambodian. The Buddhist founder, Siddhartha Gautama, was a Hindu until he made a great renunciation of Hinduism and the caste system. He lived around 560. He learned and taught the Four Noble Truths;
  1. All life is suffering
  2. The cause of suffering is desire or attachment to this world
  3. Eliminating desire is the way to eliminate suffering
  4. Desire can be eliminated by following the Eightfold path which is: right understanding, right aspiration, right effort, right speech, right conduct, right livelihood, right mindfulness & right concentration.
- Buddhism generally sees belief in the existence of god as irrelevant and impractical. Their goal is to reach nirvana and ending suffering experienced during the perpetual cycle of rebirth is the ultimate goal of Buddhist.

## **3 Al-Murtaza Mosque | 607 Lyman Rd., Inman, SC 29349**

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- This is a Shia Mosque. Shia are Muslims who believe that after Muhammad the founder of Islam he designated his cousin and son-in-law Ali to be the next leader of Islam. Most Shia Muslims live in Iran, Iraq, Azerbaijan and Bahrain. As all Muslims believe that the founder of Islam was Muhammad in 570. He was born in the city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Muslims do not consider him divine nor is he regarded as a savior. He is believed to be god's final messenger or prophet. Muslims live by the five pillars of Islam, which are the confession of one god and Muhammad his prophet, prayer five times a day, almsgiving, fasting, and pilgrimage to Mecca. The Muslims have as their holy book the Quran. Even though they supposedly believe in the Old and New Testament. But they believe both books have been corrupted, thus the reason god gave the Quran to prophet Muhammad.
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### **4 Hindu Temple | 1130 Fairview Church Rd., Spartanburg, SC 29303**

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- Hinduism has no founder. It began in India. It has no single scripture and no common creed. Hinduism claims to be the oldest organized religion. It has spawned other religions such as Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism, and many forms of the new age spirituality. Usually, a Hindu believes in a supreme god who manifests himself as a multitude of deities. It is said that they have over 3 hundred thousand deities. Hindus believe man's deeds (Karma) follow him in the present life as well as through a cycle of many rebirths, the number and quality of which are dictated by our karmic debt. Liberation from this cycle is called moksha which is pursued by good deeds, knowledge meditation, or devotion.

### **5 Spartanburg Buddhist Center | 770 Bryant Rd., Spartanburg, SC 29302**

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- Mainly Cambodian. This is one of two Buddhist temples located in Spartanburg. See point 2 for more details on religion.

### **6 Bahai Assembly of Spartanburg | 331 Bryant Rd., Spartanburg, SC 29302**

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- The term "Baha" literally means "a follower of the Baha". Bahai is short for "Baha u llaah", the man credited with the founding of the Bahas faith in 1844. The Baha faith came out of the Shia Muslim. They believe there is only one god, unknowable in his essence, who is the creator and absolute ruler of the universe. The Baha teach that all religions come from the same source and that all people are equal, regardless of their race, gender, or nationality. It promotes unity and diversity. They believe that god has revealed himself through nine manifestations: Abraham, Krishna, Moses, Zoroaster, Buddha, Jesus, Muhammed, and the Bab the final prophet Baha u llah. Bahai belief in heaven and hell are not physical places but spiritual allegories suggesting nearness to god or remoteness from him. Beyond this Bahai's understanding and teaching about the afterlife remains vague.
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## **7 Islamic Society of Spartanburg | 377 Successful Dr., Spartanburg, SC 29302**

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- Mainly Sunni Muslims, which believe in electing their religious leaders, and that position is not handed down through prophet Muhammed's bloodline. The first leader or Caliph chosen by Sunni was a friend of prophet Muhammed, Abu Bakr. They too hold to the teaching of the Quran and the five pillars of Islam. Sunni Muslims are found in many countries of the world, India, Pakistan, Egypt, Bangladesh, Indonesia.

## **8 Jewish Temple B'nai | 146 Heywood Ave, Spartanburg, SC 29302**

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- Judaism has its origin in God's revelation contained in what is called the Old Testament. Central to Judaism is the Torah, the five books of Moses. Tradition is very important and is perceived as having been given by God during the time of Moses. They believe that God is one, has no form, created the world, is eternal and is still active in the affairs of this world. They do not believe that the Messiah has come.

## **9 Unitarian Universalist Church | 210 Henry Place, Spartanburg, SC 29306**

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- Unitarians oppose the theological teaching of the Trinity. A Universalist believes that god will ultimately save everyone and that no one will suffer eternal condemnation. Adherents are allowed to believe "whatever" in anything, everything or nothing. There is no creed, no articles of faith. The search for truth for them can take many paths and beliefs. They gather around the shared moral value that includes the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

## **10 Wat Lao Buddha Mattaram of Spartanburg | 478 Fox Dr, Spartanburg, SC 29302**

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- Mainly Laotian Buddhists. See point 2 for more details on religion.

## **Resources**

- "Prayer walking made simple" by J. Chris Schofield, published by North Carolina Baptist
- "Handbook of World Religions" by Len Woods, published by Barbour Publishing
- "Global Gates Engaging the Nations", published by Global Gates