

A Sample Prayer for Healing

This is a sample format you can use when someone asks you to pray for healing. Feel free to adapt it as needed. This guide assumes that you, as the leader, will read the bold sections, and that others present may also join in prayer. Where you see "(name)", say the person's name. Any olive oil can be used for anointing.

(Name) thank you for inviting us to pray for healing. The church has practiced this kind of prayer for 2000 years. It's not a guarantee that you'll be healed but God sometimes answers prayers like this in a miraculous way. I'll be reading some of the prayers out, and we'll be praying in our own words as well. Before we start, can I ask — are you comfortable if we lay hands on you while we pray? And are you comfortable if I put a little oil on your forehead as a symbol of the Holy Spirit?

Let me start by praying.

Lord God, you have said through your apostle James: “Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.” Lord, we have gathered here in your name, and we ask you to be among us, to watch over our brother/sister (name). We ask this with faith, knowing that you are loving and strong, and you care for (name). Lord Jesus, you have taught us to pray that it would be on earth as it is in heaven. We don’t always understand what you’re doing in our lives. But you invite us to pray with faith, and so we come humbly before you to do that now. Amen.

We’ll now have a few moments of silence. Take this time to silently bring to God anything on your mind.

(Wait 20-30 seconds.)

(If they have agreed, apply a little oil to your finger and make the sign of the cross on their forehead. If they have agreed, those praying can now lay hands on them.)

Heavenly Father, we pray for our brother/sister (name) and ask that you would heal them according to your will. Comfort them in their pain. Strengthen them in their faith. Fill them with your Spirit. Grow them in Jesus. Enable them to know how much you love them. And we ask that you heal them physically, emotionally and spiritually in the powerful name of Jesus.

If anyone else wants to pray, feel free to do so now, as you feel led.

(Others now pray briefly in their own words.)

Let's pray the Lord's Prayer together.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.

Now and forever. Amen.

Let me close with this blessing.

(Name) may the blessing of our Almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, come upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

(Thank the person for the privilege of praying for them. Tell them you will continue to pray for them.)