

ALTAR WORKER'S PREPARATION AND PROCEDURE

People who come to the altar need be ministered to. Altar workers can be “Jesus with skin on” to the people who come up for prayer. This is a dynamic ministry you are used of God to minister to needs of others in a very crucial spiritual moment. The importance is hard to overestimate which is why careful and intentional preparation is vitally essential.

BEFORE YOU SIT:

- Load up on mints on your way into the sanctuary or service.
- Make sure you have your Bible.
- Have the “Romans Road” and or bridge illustration ready to share.

DURING ALTAR CALL:

- Keep your head up and eyes open to see if anyone responds.
- Pray that God will draw the lost and minister to the found. Pray that God will give you wisdom and help you to minister.
- Put a mint in your mouth!
- Come forward to the altar when the call is given. This helps break the ice for those feeling the desire to go to the altar.

AT THE ALTAR:

- Guys go to guys and gals go to gals. If there is not a like gender altar worker to minister to the one at the altar; seek out a capable person from the congregation and ask him or her to come up and help you pray.
- Introduce yourself, (“Good morning, my name is Bob”), and ask what the need is, (“May I ask why did you come forward to pray about?” or “Can I ask what’s on your heart and mind today that you came forward to pray?” “I would love to pray with you about this need. May I do that?”).
- Often when a need is told the person is not saved or is doubting their salvation. Ask the person if he/she is sure of salvation or their relationship with God. If not lead them through the plan of salvation before ministering to the other need.
- Offer limited confidentiality only for needs mentioned. Do not vow secrecy to anyone. Let them know there are some things you will need to report to the Pastoral staff / Elders / Camp Staff. Also suicidal thoughts or any kind of abuse will be reported as well. Secrecy enables sin to be perpetuated.

- If someone needs healing anoint the person with oil and pray for healing according to James 5:14-16.
- Be careful to touch people in appropriate places regardless of gender. Avoid full frontal hugs from opposite gender.
- After praying ask if you can have the person's contact information. You can then make contact later in the week and check up on him/her. Fill out the altar response card.
- If the person received Christ for the first time you must report it to the Pastor / Camp Staff. Also, make contact with them that week to encourage them.

AFTER THE ALTAR:

- Make sure the person has a Bible and a way to reach you. This can be through the church / ILRR to protect your privacy.
- If the person just received Christ, introduce him/her to your friends or others in the congregation and ask the new believer to explain what just happened to them. This will help you determine whether or not the person understands what just happened, will give them opportunity to make public profession of faith, and will give them a chance to get connected to others.
- Invite them to church, (Bible Study, Lifeboat or with you to the restaurant if you are going to eat after service) .

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BEFORE YOU SIT:

- Load up on mints.
- Make sure you have your Bible.
- Have the "Romans Road" and or one of the "Knowing God Personally" booklets.

DURING

ALTAR CALL:

- Keep your head up and eyes open to see if anyone responds.
- Pray that God will draw the lost and minister to the found. Pray that God will give you wisdom and help you to minister.
- Put a mint in your mouth!
- Come forward to break the ice if hands were raised yet no one has gone forward. You don't need to pretend to get saved, (☺), you can just come up to pray and be ready to meet anyone who will come.

AT THE ALTAR:

- Go to like gender person. If there is not a like gender altar worker to minister to the person seek a capable person from the congregation and ask if that person would come up and help you pray.
- Introduce yourself, ask what the need is.
- Often when a need is told the person is not saved or is doubting their salvation. Ask the person if he/she is sure of salvation. If not lead them through the plan of salvation before ministering to the other need.
- Offer limited confidentiality only for needs mentioned. Do not vow secrecy to anyone. Any needs beyond your ability will be immediately reported to the Pastoral staff. Also any kind of abuse will be reported as well. Secrecy enables sin to be perpetuated.
- If someone needs healing anoint the person with oil and pray for healing according to James 5:14-16.
- Be careful to touch people in appropriate places regardless of gender. Avoid full frontal hugs from opposite gender.
- After praying be sure to get the persons name and phone number if they will give it. You can then make contact later in the week and check up on him/her. Fill out the altar response card.
- If the person received Christ for the first time you must make contact with them that week to encourage them. Encourage him/her to get into a discipleship class.

AFTER THE ALTAR:

- Make sure the person has a Bible and a way to reach you. This can be through the church to protect your privacy.
- If the person just received Christ, introduce him/her to your friends or others in the congregation and ask the new believer to explain what just happened to them. This will help you determine whether or not the person understands what just happened, will give them opportunity to make public profession of faith, and will give them a chance to get connected to others.
- Invite them back to church.