

If my people, who are called by my name... The responsibility for the spiritual state of the city rests with the Church. We agree to call upon the whole Church to 'Love Southampton in Prayer'.

Shall humble themselves... One way of humbling ourselves before God is fasting. Therefore we agree to set aside one day a month for corporate prayer with fasting, calling upon God for the needs of our city.

And pray... We agree to cooperate with existing prayer strategies and to develop new ones, to ensure that the every neighbourhood, every network and every need is covered in prayer.

And seek my face... We agree to seek God's heart and direction for our ministries and will quickly respond to the leading of the Holy Spirit, rather than depending on human wisdom and programmes.

And turn from their wicked ways... We agree to maintain an attitude of repentance as God deals with our hearts and we commit to serving God's Kingdom and his people wholeheartedly. We will share our gifts and resources in order to further God's Kingdom. We will respond to the conviction of the Holy Spirit and deal with every known sin and doubtful habit in our lives.

Then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. We agree to seek God together for the fulfillment of his promise of a spiritual awakening in his people resulting in a powerful demonstration of the Kingdom of God and the transformation of our society.

Signed in Southampton on,

by

www.southamptonchristiannetwork.org.uk



Our vision is to demonstrate the love of God we see reflected in the life of Jesus, to the people of Southampton, in order to bring about lasting spiritual and social transformation.

Our goals

To see vibrant Christian communities established in all areas of Southampton, and through these:

- to make personal contact with every home in the city, offering information about local churches and their involvement in the community, inviting them to join us in our activities, encouraging them to explore the Christian faith and discover a personal relationship with Jesus (e.g. *Alpha*, *Christianity Explored*);
- to encourage and equip people for mission and create strategic opportunities for collaborative mission. Where possible, to support and release people's God given visions for reaching the city;
- and to audit existing outreach to highlight areas still to be reached.

To see these communities, together with every Christian social action group, supported in prayer.

To coordinate prayer across the city, encouraging existing initiatives and networks to provide mutual support.

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Seven Key Principles

Committed to prayer We believe that a commitment to prayer is absolutely key to this initiative so that we are consistently able to align ourselves with God's will, stay humble, and see him do what only he can do.

In Covenant together As part of the body of Christ in Southampton we are in covenant with the Lord and one other. We desire to see a fresh and increased expression of this through submission to one another in prayer, devotion to the scriptures, and mission.

In it for the long-term We are looking to invest in mission together in Southampton over this decade and beyond, rather than focus on one year, or one or two big events.

Comprehensive in scope Through what we do together, we want to reach each of our city's 232,000 people – every neighbourhood, network and need – with the gospel, so filling gaps in mission.

United partners in mission We want actively to work together in mission, submitting to and serving each other; for the banner of this initiative to cover mission taking place across the city. However, we recognise the importance of freedom of choice and don't want anyone to feel obliged to be involved. The basis of the faith that we are seeking to proclaim through our united mission can be found on our website:
<http://southamptonchristiannetwork.org.uk/basisoffaith>

Progressively auditing what we do We want to identify and record on an ongoing basis what is being done by the body of Christ across Southampton so we can better see current gaps in mission. We plan to do this with respect to age, social grouping, ethnic grouping and geography.

Filled with faith and expectancy We believe it is important that we work from a place of faith and expectancy, confident of God's redemptive purposes for Southampton; that as we step out in proclaiming the good news and serving our city, he will confirm the message of his grace.



The Southampton Agreement

A primary means of furthering God's purposes in the city is through united corporate prayer (1 Timothy 2:1-4). Without this, little that is lasting will be built. Prayer is one key way we can involve everyone in seeking the welfare of the city. What might be the impact if the following were adopted across the spectrum of God's people in Southampton?

If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14

We, the undersigned, unite together in Southampton, to seek how we can 'stand in the gap' before God for our city. We have agreed that our city is in great need of urgent and effective prayer for every aspect of society. We are challenged personally to prepare our own hearts for revival and together to issue a joint call to the Church of Southampton to seek God in fervent and united prayer according to the following principles: