

# {P} Praelude

Writing effective and answerable  
Prayer requests:

How effectively you write short, concise and precise prayer requests will determine how engaged your 20/20 prayer partners will be. Prayer requests such as "Ask the Lord to bless Johnny." no matter how much Johnny needs blessing will do little to engage the heart and souls of your prayer partners. There are several things you will need to do to draw your partners into the work that you and them are doing.

1. Be specific- Ask your partners to pray specifically for things surrounding your ministry and life. Ask yourself this question... "how will I know if God has answered this prayer?" If you cannot easily answer that for each request you have been too general and too vague. Ask specific prayer requests such as... Please ask the Lord to save Farukh? That is a specific request. It could even become more specific by asking him to save him this year....or even this week as you share the Gospel with him. Don't be afraid to ask boldly of our Lord.
2. Ask for prayer for your ministry, your relationships and yourself personally. I would try to include at least two of those categories in each weeks prayer requests. People want to know how to pray for your work and for you personally. Do not be afraid to share your struggles, failures and insecurities with your partners. Their prayers may very well be what you need to come out of your funk.
3. Include scriptures into your prayer requests. Praying God's Word over your work and life is a way to know that what you are asking for is always God's will, because it is His word.

Be consistent.....every week you need to come to your partners with new and fresh needs to pray for. Never let more than a week pass by without changing or modifying your requests.