

A Campmeeting Transformed

Prayer at Soquel Campmeeting

Prayer Before Campmeeting

Soquel Campmeeting, in Central California Conference (CCC), is bathed in prayer long before anyone arrives for the ten days of campmeeting. CCC Prayer Coordinator, Joyce Mulligan, conference leaders and prayer partners pray for campmeeting plans throughout the year. They pray specifically about what speakers to invite, how to organize everything, for those who will attend, for finances, and for God's blessing.

The weekend before Soquel campmeeting begins, over 100 people gather on the conference grounds to pray, worship and fellowship. Conference leaders share specific prayer needs for the prayer warriors to intercede for. On Sabbath afternoon, they split up into small groups of 5-7 people and prayer walk the entire conference grounds. They pray over each tent and trailer space, as well as in each children's division and meeting room. God honors their prayers and works in powerful ways during campmeeting as a result.

During Campmeeting

From the time the attendees first arrive at Soquel Campmeeting, until the final meeting, they are surrounded with prayer. The prayer team prays with attendees as they enter the front gate, and pass out Scripture cards as they pray with people.

Two conference pastors are assigned to work with the prayer team and help to facilitate prayer throughout the campground. Young prayer warriors are stationed in the earliteen, youth and young adult divisions to pray to promote prayer and to pray with and for the young people. Prayer partners systematically visit each division every day to pray with the leaders and helpers.

The "Upper Room - A Gathering Place for Prayer" is open daily for anyone who needs personal prayer and several times each days is filled to overflowing with individuals interceding for the needs of the campground. Every evening meeting includes powerful answer to prayer stories and a meaningful prayer time.

Prayer Power

All of this prayer has a profound effect on the people who attend. One couple attending received news that her son had killed his father. All over campus people began to pray for them and their son. Peace came. In the coming months, people from campmeeting and church continued to pray for them and their son. He has since been released from prison, given his life to Jesus and is now seeking God wholeheartedly.

Prayer has also had a profound effect on Soquel Campmeeting itself. Many who come report sensing the presence of God in a powerful way and each year many give their lives to Jesus in baptism. The yearly evangelism offering has grown to over a million dollars a year as a result of the earnest prayers of many people, greatly expanding the evangelistic efforts in Central California Conference and bringing many people to Jesus.