

Creative prayer ideas

Creative prayer idea for church unity and forgiveness

On Wednesday 3 October 2012 our issue in focus for the day was unity in the UK church...we found the following idea a particularly powerful aid to our prayer. As we are often a small group here at the Sanctuary we found this worked really well corporately, but you could adapt it into prayer stations if you have more people and feel this would be more appropriate.

However you choose to use it, you will need:

- pens and small slips of paper
- a communion cup
- a list, leaflet or sheet with pictures of the churches in your town or city on it
- A map of the UK and Ireland.

We used 'We are in Christ (Together we come)' as our accompanying worship song, for which you can find audio and chord sheet at www.thesanctuarycentre.org/whereworldandworshipmeet-songs but you might find silence, or a playlist of other suitable unity songs a helpful addition. (See the unity section in our [outward focused song index](#) for more ideas.)

1. Search my heart



- Still your hearts and invite the Holy Spirit to help you recognise Jesus as the King of every area of your life – including your relationships with brothers and sisters.
- Take it in turns to write down a name of a Christian/groups of Christians you need to forgive personally.
- As appropriate, pray silently or out loud – praying blessing on the person/people you have written down, and then placing the folded piece of paper with their name/s into the cup... recognising that Jesus' blood has forgiven you and symbolising that you choose to give this person, and your relationship with them, to him.

2. Let us be known again by our love



- Carry the cup full of forgiven offenses to whatever you are using to symbolise the churches in your area – and use it as a visual aid to help you connect with church unity.
- Pray for forgiveness and unity between individuals in each of the local churches by name.
- And then pray blessing and healing on the relationships between different churches, denominations and churchmanships in your area.

3. Purify your church



- Lastly, carry the cup of forgiven offenses to the map of the UK and Ireland. Place it at the centre of the map and/or on your area within the map.
- Invite different people to pray for the church in the UK and Ireland, speaking blessing on different denominations and churchmanships and interceding for the restoration of relationships.
- Pray the church would cease to be a house divided against itself failing to stand, but unite to be a living, vibrant representation of one single name – the precious name of Jesus Christ – it's all for him, so what else really matters?