**Introductory Prayer Partner Devotional**

Items needed: Clear baking dish or plate of water, pepper shaker, liquid soap to dip finger into

Thank you so much for taking time out of your schedule to come tonight. We are all truly blessed to have you here. We are looking forward to a great year of seeing God do great and mighty things due to prayer. All of you girls and ladies bless my heart to see the willingness and desire that you have to pray for one another. I encourage you to write each other notes of encouragement this year. It would also be a good idea to include answers to prayer as well as new prayer requests in each note you write each other. Feel free to greet each other if you see each other in church. These girls love hugs and one can never get enough of them. Don't be overwhelmed by any commitment here, just know that my main desire is that you will pray for each other on a regular basis.

I am so blessed to see how excited young girls are to know that someone is praying for them. I am also blessed when I find out that the ladies also enjoy being prayed for and having an impact on a young girl's life. When I say impact that is exactly what I mean. You have an opportunity this year to impact each other's lives by praying for one another. You see God works in miraculous ways through prayer.

**Philippians 4:6 says, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”**

God asks us to pray to Him because He wants to answer our prayers; He wants to be in relationship with us. He also wants us to be in relationship with others, encouraging one another.

**I Thessalonians 5:11 says, “Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing.”**

Praying for someone is one of the mightiest ways to encourage someone.

I want you to look at this dish/plate of water. (Shake lots of pepper onto the water) We are people that attend this church. We are Christians who love the Lord. We often go through life in our own little areas living our own lives. There is something awesome that happens when we add prayer for one another. (Touch the edge of the water with tip of finger dipped in soap – the pepper will quickly move away from your finger). Prayer brings us all closer together. This is what God intended for His believers, for us to be in close relationship with Him and with one another, no matter what the age. Our lives are very busy, but through prayer we bring a closeness that can't happen any other way and that is a close bond even though we don't spend much time together.

Through your prayers for each other I believe that **“He is able to do exceedingly, abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.” Ephesians 3:20** I am excited to see what God is going to do this year. Pray expecting Him to answer.

Thanks again for being willing to pray. It touches my heart and excites me to see God's people obeying His Word and encouraging each other. The girls are going to give you something to help you remember to pray for them. I want you to spend some time praying together for each other now. Your prayers don't have to be fancy; God doesn't require “fancy” words. Just pray from your heart for each other.