
SPIRITUAL MAPPING FOR EFFECTIVE SPIRITUAL WARFARE – Part 4

By Diane Buker

4. How Do You Form A Spiritual Mapping Team?

A spiritual mapping project for a city or a good size neighbourhood would usually need to be comprised of about ten to twelve people. The work load would most likely be too heavy for any smaller size group. A mapping project will also be a long term project. Depending on the geographical size and population of a region, an average project will demand about a two year time investment. Team members should be ready for the duration. Know that God has called you!

Some of the work will be exciting and exhilarating, while yet other aspects will appear to be boring and laborious. As a team you will need to pray much for one another and encourage one another. Of the utmost importance is the need to be dependent upon the Lord. You will need to spend much time waiting upon Him for counsel and revelation on how to proceed. There are various aspects to any mapping project. Prayer is an area that all members should be skilled in and willing to do. Your prayer closet time is invaluable. However, you must also have a consistent and disciplined plan for corporate prayer.

Your project will require many hours of research. There will be those that really enjoy doing library or historical society research. Although everyone may do some reading on the area, some will be more skilled in finding those "nuggets of gold" that will prosper the work. Others will have the patience and enjoyment of going carefully through the newspapers and keeping up on the current events of the area. It is necessary to keep organized files and to document all your work.

Still other members will be very good at interviewing. There will be people in the community that have the information you need. Perhaps they are "old-timers" and the treasure you seek is only to be found in the archives of their hearts and memories. Not everyone is skilled or comfortable in sitting down with someone and "picking his/her brain", or listening to that person "walk down memory lane". Remember to take good notes, with their permission, and to be a good listener.

Your project will require individuals that have the anointing and boldness to go into places that "good Christians" do not go. We have walked streets that "ladies" would not walk. I believe that the "Light" is greater than the darkness, and therefore my protection is provided for by my God. There are those on our team who do not feel comfortable or called to that aspect of the work, so they do not do it, someone else does.

I want to stress that there will be situations in your work when the Lord will say, "Do not pursue this any further" or "leave this alone". Despite what liberty you have known in operating at other times, when the Lord puts the reins on, STOP. I believe our safety and supply of grace is balanced on scales with our obedience to the Lord. I am in no way negating the mercies of the Lord, simply being mindful of our call to obedience. I am a person of great boldness. I have learned that this part of my nature can only be a blessing to the Lord and a profit to His work when I am obedient to His voice in each situation.

"And Samuel said, 'Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.'" I Samuel 15:22

A necessary qualification for every team member is knowing their authority and position in Jesus Christ. I want to communicate to you that the warfare in this work is intense. Often you will have to resist the enemy and stand your ground.

"I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust." Psalm 91:2

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7

As with any team, you will need a leader. That leader must know how to operate in his or her gifts, while being part of a team. The team must be comprised of saints that know how to work in their gifts and callings under the direction of that leadership. Everyone on the team would operate as directed in God's Word.

"Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." Ephesians 5:21 "Let nothing be done through strife or vain-glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." Philippians 2:3-4

Remember that the purpose of Spiritual Mapping is to help in the work of harvesting souls. With that being the case, each person involved needs to share a burden for the saving of those souls. Each team member should bear the fruit of compassion and love towards the lost. We should always remember that love is what best represents Christ.

Before I close this section, I want to talk about spiritual accountability. Your team needs to have a number of pastors/elders, or leaders that back up your work. Remember, God ordained the shepherds to care for the sheep. He set the elders or leaders at the city gates for judging and counsel. You will be confronted with many decisions and many questions in your work. You and the work will prosper when proper counsel is in place. Make sure that those shepherds and elders that come along side of you have clear understanding, and are in agreement with what you are going to be doing.

"Without wise leadership, a nation is in trouble; but with good counsellors there is safety." Proverbs 11:14

"Every purpose is established by counsel; and with good advice make war." Proverbs 20:18

"For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war; and in multitude of counsellors there is safety." Proverbs 24:6

Recognize that embarking in this work will take you behind enemy lines. I found it beneficial to have wise and trusted counsel with someone not involved in the project. Saints who knew I was behind the enemy's line, prayed for me while I was there, and watched to be sure I came out safely.

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