

# *On Beads of Prayer*

## *Connecting with God*

### How to Develop a Prayer Bead Ministry

It is important to gauge interest before launching full-tilt into a ministry. Some people will do any activity to support our troops in Iraq; others are interested in the spiritual development of their children. Still others like the fellowship of doing handwork together. There is no inappropriate reason.

Having first held a workshop (see “How to Organize a Prayer Bead Workshop”), you’re in a position to develop a prayer bead ministry. Call *On Beads of Prayer* at (703) 734-1978 or e-mail us at [info@onbeadsofprayer.org](mailto:info@onbeadsofprayer.org) and we’ll be happy to help you with the next steps.

#### **How Do I Find People to Start the Ministry?**

Start with the people who participated in the workshop. Talk to people in your church or other community groups to see who else might be interested in learning about an additional way to pray using prayer beads and /or to make prayer beads. Consult with your rector, Sunday school teachers, meditation group, and other group leaders.

Get a commitment from at least 6 to 8 people.

#### **How Do We Prepare for The Ministry?**

Organize place and time for meetings. Seniors usually prefer weekday mornings before or after Bible Study. Youth groups generally meet evenings. Saturdays or Sundays are great days for children to meet.

Buy a few sets of prayer beads from *On Beads of Prayer* for your group to use; these can later be sold to the individuals in your group.

Have the group practice praying with the prayer beads. See our hand-out on prayer beads with suggested prayers and method of praying.

If you are going to be a ministry, you will want to make prayer beads as well as pray with them. Discuss for whom you wish to make them:

- you and your families
- shut-ins and those facing physical challenges in your church or your community

- U.S. military in harm's way. Ship to *On Beads of Prayer* for forwarding, or ship directly to chaplains in the field. We can provide the names of chaplains who will be happy to receive prayer beads.
- church or group events to raise funds for outreach

Then purchase beads in kits ready to string, or in bulk, from *On Beads of Prayer* or from local sources and you're ready to go!

Have fun guiding your group in making prayer beads. See our hand-out on "How to String." Enjoy praying with your beads!

If your church or group is in the neighborhood of Washington, DC, we may be able to come to you for an early organizing and training session or for a prayer bead workshop.

**ENJOY STARTING YOUR OWN PRAYER BEAD MINISTRY! PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW BEST WE CAN HELP YOU!!**

*On Beads of Prayer* is a ministry whose mission is to deepen your connection with God. Visit our web site at [www.onbeadsofprayer.org](http://www.onbeadsofprayer.org) for ways to get involved!