

## Prayers for Inquiry Sessions

**Opening prayer**....spontaneous and simple; no formal ritual prayer during the inquiry stage.

**God, creator of all creation, we thank you for bringing us together this evening. We ask that you be with us as we reflect on who we are and where we are going."**

### Examples of Closing Prayers

- Prayer of Petition

Jesus says ask and it shall be given.

Invite inquirers to pray a prayer of petition:

<b>We pray for those who are ill and are in need of healing</b>	R/ God, hear us
<b>We pray for those who have lost their home due to disasters/foreclosures</b>	R/God, hear us
<b>We pray for.... Inquirers add their petitions</b>	R/ God, hear us

**God you are all powerful and caring. Hear these requests and grant them through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

- Prayer for the month of November

Use after a session on the Communion of Saints or death.

**Let us close this evening by remembering those family members or friends who have died.**

Team / Inquirers call out names.

After all the names have been said end with the following:

**May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen**

- Prayer for Hope

Use after teaching on the virtue of hope.

**The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ gives us hope. Other signs of God's creation and events in our lives offer us hope. Take a moment to think of someone or something that has given you hope. PAUSE.** Allow time for everyone to come up with a response (Example, a birth of a child, a rainbow, a special friendship.)

**God you have given us life and offer us new life in Jesus Christ. We pause now to give thanks for all that gives us hope.** (Team members state something or someone that gives them hope....Inquirers follow the teams lead.) \_\_\_\_\_ **gives me hope.** After each statement the following response can be used: **Thank you God.**

- Use of Music

There are so many Christian CDs with wonderful songs that can touch the heart of an inquirer. Play one as a concluding prayer. You may want to have the words so they can sing or just have them listen to the words and then take a moment to silently reflect on the meaning of the song. Try to pick a song that goes along with the topic you addressed in the session.

**Do not end sessions with the "Our Father," especially if you have unbaptized inquirers in class.**

**Adapted from Come Follow Me: Resources for the Period of Inquiry in the RCIA :Edited by Joseph P. Sinwell**