

IDOP 2020 Mini-Banquet Instruction Sheet

1. Between the dates of October 1 and November 15 (preferably before November 1), invite fellow believers over to your home or backyard for a short, 30-minute time of fellowship, food, and prayer. Make the food portion of the gathering whatever you want it to be for YOUR personality and style. You can make an internationally-themed meal, barbecue outside, order Chinese or other ethnic food, have an international potluck, serve only dessert, or just have snacks- whatever works for you. Have fun and be creative!
2. Invite family, friends, a small church group (like a community group), members from your bible study, perhaps a youth group gathering, or even use the videos and prayers in a children's ministry setting (please note that the second video about Kirti might be frightening for some children, so please view the video ahead of time to determine if it is appropriate). Keep the gathering COVID-safe. Utilize patios, backyards, and barbecues if that would make your guests more comfortable.
3. Please take photos of your gathering, your food, even share your recipes! We would like to gather the photos and recipes to share at our IDOP event on Sunday, November 1 from 4 to 5:30. Invite your guests to attend IDOP as well, for we will be hearing from Faith McDonnell all the way from Washington D.C.! She is a wealth of knowledge, and her heart is for prayer (see IDOP flyer for more details of this free event on November 1.) During our IDOP 2020 event on November 1, we will show a photo slideshow of the various prayer gatherings that met and prayed between the dates mentioned above, and we would love to have a list of international recipes from the gatherings available to share. Please send your photos and recipes to Kim at KimHensley1136@gmail.com or to Patricia at patricias@dslextreme.com no later than Tuesday, October 27.
4. IDOP, or The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, is focused on prayer, but because the annual spring International Banquet for the Persecuted Church was cancelled this year due to COVID, we wanted to find a way to still raise funds to aid our persecuted brothers and sisters. The Lord gave us the idea for these mini gatherings in lieu of one large gathering. We hope that you will share about the fundraising appeal at the end of your mini-banquet prayer times. You can simply give each guest a form with the information, then let the Lord lead each attendee individually. The amount raised between October 1 and November 1 will be revealed at our IDOP event, then there will be another offering taking at IDOP, and we will extend the time that mini-gatherings can meet up to the date of November 15 for any additional offerings made.
5. The Prayer Guide for the individual gatherings is just that - a guide. The guide is tailored to last 30 minutes with the video and prayer put together, but feel free to alter it in any way that fits your particular group. You can add live or recorded worship music in and throughout the prayer time if you would like. Or, if 30 minutes seems too long, choose what portion of the prayer time to use for a shorter program. Also, the prayer points are just a help. You can take turns reading them aloud in prayer, let guests pray silently if they feel more comfortable, or add to the prayers as the Holy Spirit leads. Again, you know your guests and what would make them feel most comfortable. The goal is to pray- *how* the praying gets done doesn't matter.

Thank you for your love and care for our worldwide church family! We are thankful for you, we are praying for you and your gatherings, and we look forward to someday hear about how the Lord used all of this in His kingdom work!

With love, Patricia Streeter and Kim Hensley, Open Doors Connector Volunteers