

**I. Steps in Christ South (MCRD)
Prayer Team Training Guidelines
Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD)**

MCRD Navigator Teaching & Technical Team:

- Key Leaders: Gene Smith, Todd Mathisen, Dave Kunsky, Dave Davis, John Schooler
- Instructor Leader: Gene Smith
- Technical: Rich Oldham, Jon Wickham

MCRD Prayer Team Leader: John Schooler and Dave Kunsky (Prayer team training)

1. Our responsibility is to stay within MCRD boot camp training guidelines.
2. Our authorization to be on the base working with recruits comes from the Chaplains.

Four Very Important Requirements for Participation:

****Military Privileges:** Unless you have proper military I.D., there is absolutely no use of government facilities permitted for gasoline, cigarettes and alcohol. Anyone doing this illegally will be excused from being part of the MCRD Steps in Christ ministry permanently. You are able to purchase snack food and other items at the gas station as well as the small store on the corner of the food court. You do not need a military ID for these locations except for items mentioned above.

****Weekly Participation:** Each person is to work with and through their respective Church team leader. No one is authorized to come down on their own (additional Sundays) unless they are approved specifically by their Church team leader, John Schooler, Dave Kunsky or Gene Smith.

****Dress Code:** Please come dressed with casual pants (no jeans or shorts), a nice collared shirt (no t-shirts), appropriate shoes (no sandals or flip flops) and no hats or covers.

****Badges:** Each prayer partner should purchase and wear his badge for recognition both by the MCRD command as well as recruits. It also helps the recruits remember who you are! Cost is minimal for materials:\$10 for two badges and a lanyard. See Gene or Dave Kunsky.

3. **Family member's and recruits:** There is no direct contact with family members by recruits, i.e., if you are related to a recruit currently attending MCRD. We can however call family members to pass on information to encourage them regarding their recruit.

4. **Family member's communication:** Feel free to contact parents of recruits outside of your time at MCRD. At no time are you permitted to allow recruits to make phone calls.

5. **Suicide:** If any recruit talks about suicide, **immediately contact the chaplain or RP for assistance. Do not let the recruit out of your sight until you have handed him over to one of these men.** This is potentially very serious and needs to be cared for at once.

6. **Drill Instructors (DI):** Do not bad mouth Marine Drill Instructors. God uses them in His own special way for the training each recruit needs for survival in wartime.

7. One of the biggest needs of recruits is to pray for their health and safety.
8. **War and Morality:** For questions about war or the morality of war see one of the ministry team (“Ready for War” booklet available).
9. **Chaplain requests:** Every Recruit can request to see a Chaplain and are supposed to be given this privilege within 24 hours of their request if they have a need. This process is initiated by the recruit making this request known his Senior Drill Instructor.
10. **Baptism:** They go their platoon Prayer Leader, who will inform the chaplain of this desire.
11. **Weekly prayer with recruits** Each Sunday, we will attempt to remind the recruits of the prayer team being available when the praise music starts.
12. **Special requests & needs:** All requests for any needs (computer, materials, etc.) are to go through Gene Smith, Todd Mathisen, Dave Kunsky or Dave Davis rather than the RPs or Chaplains. They are our point of contacts with the command as set-up by the RTR chaplain.
14. **Full Bibles:** These are available through the Chaplains or purchased through the Recruit Store. Sometimes we have some to give out to recruits.

II. Military terminology

1. Chaplain is a Military Pastor
2. R.P. - Religious Program specialist.
3. D.I. - Drill Instructor
4. M.R.P. - Medical Rehab. Platoon
5. P.C.P. - Physical Conditioning Platoon – Working on physical conditioning

III. Prayer Team Procedures

1. **Weekly prayer and Instructions: ALL HANDS meet at 9:15 AM in AIP 108 for prayer.** Wear your Steps in Christ name badge. Be sure you have pen(s) and writing paper.
2. Welcome the recruits as they arrive and feel free to mingle with them. Ask questions like:
 - Where are you from?
 - What made you decide to join the Marine Corps?
 - How's it going in recruit training?
 - Have you been to Steps in Christ before?
 - What do you think of the program?
 - Did you have a church background?
 These questions may lead to deeper ministry in their lives.
3. Bibles (if available) and additional information are located on the table in the front of the auditorium.

4. Feel free to greet the Marine D.I.s. They have a tough job, don't get a lot of sleep and are under-appreciated for the great job they do.
5. If you need to talk more privately, feel free to meet with the recruit outside of the auditorium.

IV. Gospel Class Instructions

1. No later than 10:30 AM, please be in room 105 ready to help with the altar call that will be taking place there. Feel free to be in room 105 earlier if you want to listen to the entire gospel presentation. The speaker will be asking specifically for first time commitment decisions for Christ. He will ask them to pray right then to receive Christ as their Savior. Then he will ask them to go and meet with the prayer partners around the room.
2. Before you pray with the recruits, ask them what kind of a commitment they are making this morning 1) first time commitment to Christ or 2) rededication of their lives to Christ. Ask if they understand the decision they are making and clarify if necessary. **Please ask those making first time decisions for Christ to fill out the Green Commitment forms if they so desire.**
3. Pray with them to make certain of their new found faith and trust in Christ as Savior.
4. **There are four recruit training approved handouts** -- "7 Minutes with God", "Beginning with Christ", "Ready for War" and "21 Jump Start devotional." Give the "Beginning with Christ" and "21 Jump Start" devotional" to those who are making first time decisions. Give the "7 Minutes with God" to those who rededicate their lives with the admonition to read and apply the Word as much as possible. Encourage them to put these handouts into their "Knowledge" notebooks. **Any other handouts need to be approved by Gene Smith, Team Leader. Passing out unapproved documents could have personal consequences as well as jeopardize our ministry here at MCRD.** However, we would highly recommend that you give your business card to recruits so they can contact you for follow-up later.
5. If you have a group, go through steps 2-4 quickly. There will always be some that may want to spend more time with you to ask a specific question. You won't have time to answer their questions if you take too much time with steps 2-4.
6. Often recruits will want to talk or pray with you. Make sure to have a small notepad and pen to take notes with and to be able to follow-up on any areas needed with the recruit or his family. God may want to use you to help connect them in their next duty station with other believers for discipleship, growth and fellowship. Make sure they receive one of the Contact List for name and contact information we have available. **For significant issues needing immediate attention, please make sure one of the team leaders, church leaders, the Chaplain or an RP is brought into the loop right away.**

If you need to connect with me, my numbers are: 858-780-8772 (home), 858-922-8760 (mobile). Thanks for serving God's Kingdom in this way! We need and appreciate you!

Blessings, Gene