

# A Church Devoted to Prayer

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, February 7, 2021

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**Theme:** The early church formed and grew through devoted prayer. Likewise, we should, from our first embracing of the gospel to our most difficult moments and everything in between, devote ourselves as a church through prayer as an essential part of body life together.

## I. Need for Prayer – Read Acts 1:12-14

- A. In Acts 1:12-14, why do the disciples go back to the upper room in Jerusalem? Verse 14 says they were devoting themselves to prayer. What do you think that looked like in their context?
  
- B. After considering the events listed in Luke 6:12-13, Acts 6:6, and Acts 13:1-3, what are some of the special circumstances for prayer that we have at Christ Proclamation Church? How do we address these needs corporately, and how do you engage them as individual members?
  
- C. As you compare the prayers of the early church (Acts 4:23-31) with Jesus' Gethsemane prayer (Matt. 26:36-46), what are some of the similarities and differences with regard to desperation?
  
- D. It's natural to pray when we feel desperate, but what do we pray for? Is that consistent with what we see modeled in Jesus and the early church? How should we pray in desperate circumstances?

## II. Devoted to Prayer – Read Acts 2:36-42

- A. We are reminded in Acts 2:37-38 that repentance is a key step in coming to faith in Christ. Do you agree that we cannot start our spiritual journey without prayer? Why or why not?
  
- B. What does it mean to be “devoted” to something? If you asked the people who are closest to you, what would they say you are devoted to? How would you like to grow in being devoted to prayer?
  
- C. Read Luke 18:1-8. According to this parable, what do you think it means to “lose heart”? How would you like to be more persistent in praying for your church family at Proclamation?
  
- D. It is easy to agree that we should all pray more. What are some of the things (gospel opportunities, unity in the body, salvation of people you know, etc.) that you would like to be praying for more consistently? How do you plan on growing (frequency, duration, etc.) in your prayer life?
  
- E. We were challenged in the conclusion of the sermon to pray regularly, specifically, and biblically. As you consider your own life, which area do you think needs the most growth?