

**“All These With One Accord”:**  
*Learning Prayer From the Early Church*  
*Sermon Notes*

➤ **Our 2025 Vision begins with prayer because the prayers of the church of Christ unleash the power of Christ**

*\*Oh that our 21st century church would pray as the 1st century church...*

1. Enjoying the gospel in Jerusalem (1:12-14, 24-26; 2:42; 4:23-31; 6:1-4, 6; 7:59-60)

2. Entrusting the gospel to Judea and Samaria (8:14-17, 18-24; 9:11, 14, 21, 40; 10:1-5, 9, 30-31; 11:5; 12:5, 12; 13:1-3; 14:23; 16:16, 25-26)

3. Extending the gospel to the ends of the earth (20:36-38; 21:5-6; 22:17; 27:29; 28:8)

**Next Sunday: Ephesians 1:15-23 - “Wisdom & Revelation in the Knowledge of Him”:**  
*Praying With Paul, Part 1*

## Community Group Study Guide<sup>1</sup> For the Week of July 25th-31st

If you are like me, you find that from time to time your prayer life needs a jolt out of the rut it has fallen into. We tend to use the same phrases over and over. We tend to default to worn out phrases (like the word default). We fall into patterns of mindless repetition.

The devil hates prayer. Our own flesh does not naturally love it. Therefore, it does not come full-born and complete and passionate from the womb of our heart. It takes ever renewed discipline.

Years ago, when I wrote [Let the Nations Be Glad](#), I argued that prayer is a wartime walkie-talkie, not a domestic intercom. God is more like a general in Command Central than a butler waiting to bring you another pillow in the den. Of course, he is also Father, Lover, Friend, Physician, Shepherd, Helper, King, Savior, Lord, Counselor. But in this fallen “world with devils filled,” prayer will function best when we keep the frequency tuned to Command Central in the fight of faith.

So when I wrote that book, I gathered into one place all the things the early church prayed for. I printed this out for myself, and it has proven to be one of those “jolts” that I need. I thought you might find it helpful. You might want to print it out and keep it for a while in your Bible to guide you in your praying.

It is a great confidence-builder in prayer to know that you are not quirky in your praying. To pray what the New Testament prays is a safe and powerful way to pray.

Prayer remains one of the great and glorious mysteries of the universe — that the all-knowing, all-wise, all-sovereign God should ordain to run his world in response to our prayers is mind-boggling. But that is the uniform witness of Scripture. God hears and answers the prayers of his people. Oh, do not neglect this amazing way of influencing nations and movements and institutions and churches and people’s hearts, especially your own.

If you want to pray for what the early church prayed for . . .

They called on God to vindicate his people in their cause (Luke 18:7).

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<sup>1</sup> This week in your personal devotions, family worship time, or Community Group gatherings, read (and **pray** through) this classic article from John Piper titled: “What Should We Pray For?” (originally “What the New Testament Church Prayed For”) <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-should-we-pray-for> .

They called on God to save unbelievers (Romans 10:1).

They called on God to direct the use of the sword (Ephesians 6:17-18)

They called on God for boldness in proclamation (Ephesians 6:18-19; Acts 4:29).

They called on God for signs and wonders (Acts 4:30; James 5:17-18).

They called on God for the healing of wounded comrades (James 5:14-15).

They called on God for the healing of unbelievers (Acts 28:8).

They called on God for the casting out of demons (Mark 9:29).

They called on God for miraculous deliverances (Acts 12:5,12; 16:25-26).

They called on God for the raising of the dead (Acts 9:40).

They called on God to supply his troops with necessities (Matthew 6:11).

They called on God for strategic wisdom (James 1:5).

They called on God to establish leadership in the outposts (Acts 14:23).

They called on God to send out reinforcements (Matthew 9:38; Acts 13:2-3).

They called on God for the success of other missionaries (Romans 15:30-31).

They called on God for unity and harmony in the ranks (John 17:20-21).

They called on God for the encouragement of togetherness (1 Thessalonians 3:10).

They called on God for a mind of discernment (Philippians 1:9-10).

They called on God for a knowledge of his will (Colossians 1:9).

They called on God to know him better (Colossians 1:10; Ephesians 1:17).

They called on God for power to comprehend the love of Christ (Ephesians 3:14,18).

They called on God for a deeper sense of assured hope (Ephesians 1:16,18).

They called on God for strength and endurance (Colossians 1:11; Ephesians 3:16).

They called on God for a deeper sense of his power within them. (Ephesians 1:16,19).

They called on God that their faith not be destroyed (Luke 22:32; 21:36).

They called on God for greater faith (Mark 9:24; Ephesians 3:17).

They called on God that they might not fall into temptation (Matthew 6:13; Matthew 26:41).

They called on God that he would complete their resolves (2 Thessalonians 1:11).

They called on God that they would do good works (Colossians 1:10).

They called on God for forgiveness of their sins (Matthew 6:12).

They called on God for protection from the evil one (Matthew 6:13).

**Dear MEFC Family,**

**How your shepherds long for our congregation to become a church in which prayer is so pervasive that it's as needful to us as breathing. Even more so. Know that we are praying for you, filled with faith toward God's promises and hope in our incomparable Christ into the days ahead. Maranatha!**

**Grace & Peace,**

**Pastor Dave (for Pastor Aaron, Matt, Caleb, & Andy)**