

The Power of Corporate Prayer

Acts 4: 23-33

The success of the early church was not in their buildings, writings, programs, ministries or ministers. The growth of the early church was built on Christ centered preaching, disciple making multiplication and bold dangerous praying.

When you study the book of Acts you will quickly realize that the power of corporate prayer was the key to the success of the early church.

The majority of God's greatest works in the early church came as a result of a prayer meeting.

1. Their prayers released the _____ of God. V.29-31
 - a. "Send your healing power: may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus." V. 30. They didn't pray for fame, fortune, safety, blessings, none of the things that we often pray for. They prayed for the power of God to fall on them in such a way that the world would take notice.
 - b. "The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men who had had no special training. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus." Acts 4:13
 - c. The amazement of the council came from the fact that these men had been with Jesus. Peter and John were nothing special, but through prayer the power of God was so released in their life that they confounded the religious leaders of their day.

2. Their Prayers Renewed their _____ for God. V. 33, "And the apostles gave powerful witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great favor was upon them all." After this mighty prayer meeting, the building wasn't the only thing that shook. God shook the lives of the Apostles and as if they need more passion, they received it anyway.
 - A. Passion comes from praying. The more praying, the more passion for Christ.
 - B. The passion of the disciples witness was strong. 120 believers turned into over a million by the end of Acts and it was a result of their prayers.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Matthew 7: 7-8.