

THE PRIORITY OF
PRAYER



Prioritizing Prayer

Matthew 21:12-13

Key to Church Growth

- Church growth is a work of God that moves through the people of the church. The only way that God can grow the church is if the people are willing and ready to be obedient.

Three Points of Faith

- A renewed belief in Jesus Christ and the mission of the church
- A renewed attitude toward servanthood
- A strategic effort in prayer

Focus on Prayer

- They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. Acts 1:14
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- They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42

Martin Luther on Prayer

- We should work as if everything depends on us and pray as if everything depends on God

Why Does Prayer Matter?

- Prayer builds our relationship with God
- Prayer reveals our reliance on God
- Prayer taps the resources of God
- Prayer rallies the church together
- Prayer empowers church revitalization

Comeback Churches

- **The Holy Spirit's presence and power is released through intentional prayer - Ed Stetzer: Comeback Churches**

Top Ten Prayer List

- 1. Pray for the community. Ask God to send an anointing on the church to win lost souls.
- 2. Ask for God to send an exponential amount of power upon the church.
- 3. Pray for unity within the church
- 4. Pray for God to send us champions

Top Ten Prayer List

- 5. Ask for God to stir the hearts of the people within the church.
- 6. Pray for the planning process for the Fall and Winter.
- 7. Pray for God to send the needed finances to the church.

Top Ten Prayer List

- 8. Pray for God to send a supernatural outpouring the Holy Spirit on the church.
- 9. Pray for God to raise up intercessors
- 10. Pray for Pastor Jim as he leaves the church and pray for Pastor Dave as he transitions into the church

Prayer Guide

- We will be developing a prayer guide this week for distribution next week.
- How to Pray for Believers
- How to Pray for Worship service
- How to Pray for the Lost

Challenge 5-4-5

- Pray for five people each day for five minutes
- Pray that they come to know Jesus
- Pray that they would be receptive to an invitation to church
- Pray for the courage and opportunity to invite for National Back to Church Sunday