

“THE COMMUNITY OF PRAYER”

Acts 2:42-47

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

I. How did coming to faith in Christ change the early Christians? (vv. 42)

“They devoted themselves”

“... to the apostles’ teaching”

“.. to the fellowship”

“... the breaking of bread”

“...and the prayers.”

The _____ creates a community of _____.

Acts 1:14

Revelation 4:8

“God sometimes stands upon a number of voices, for the carrying of some public mercy, because he delights in the harmony of many praying souls.” -John Flavel

“Prayer is a reflex to the grace he gives to the sinners he saves. It is soliciting his provision in view of the power he has shown.” -David Mathis

II. What was their community like because of this commitment to prayer together? (vv. 43-47)

“awe (fear) came upon every soul and many wonders and signs were being done”

“all things in common ... selling possessions ... as any had need”

“received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor”

A community of prayer experiences the _____ & _____ of God.

Daniel 10:12-14
Romans 15:30
2 Corinthians 1:11
Ephesians 6:18-20
Colossians 4:12

"For prayer is the way in which we express to God our inmost being and our sense of need to him."
-Sinclair Ferguson

"... the personal dimensions of Christianity are difficult to maintain and practice consistently unless they grow out of a proper corporate experience on a regular basis."
-Gene Getz

"What we are really doing in prayer is asking Him to come into our human situation, with all our many needs, and flood even our spiritual deadness with His resurrection power."
-Doug Kelly

III. What maintains fellowship with God and one another?

"the Lord added to their number day by day"

Evangelism: Acts 1 → Acts 4 → Acts 13

Leadership: Acts 6 → Acts 14 → Acts 20

Persecution/Problems: Acts 12 → Acts 16 → Acts 27

Join _____ in praying for the health & _____ of the gospel community.

Acts 1:14; 4:31; 6:2-7; 12:5; 13:2-3; 14:23; 16:25-25; 20:36-37; 27:29-30

"Surely the church that never comes together for prayers loses something."
-Sinclair Ferguson

"Brethren, we shall never see much change for the better in our churches in general till the prayer meeting occupies a higher place in the esteem of Christians."
- Charles Spurgeon