

Message Notes

February 16, 2020

Onward: Empowered Through Prayer

Acts 4:23-31

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Prayer

- ◆ The most _____ activity of our lives. (Pete Grieg)
- ◆ The way we develop a _____ with God.
- ◆ Keeping _____ with God. (Brother Lawrence)
- ◆ _____ us. (Phil. 4:6-7; James 5:16; 1 Jn. 5:14-16)
- ◆ Acts is the story of _____ people empowered by the Holy Spirit through _____ to continue Jesus' mission.

Learning From This Prayer of the Early Church

When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God, "Sovereign Lord," they said, "You made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. (Acts 4:24)

- ◆ Praying _____ was a priority for this gathering of believers. (Acts 1:14, 24; 2:42; 3:1; 4:23-31; 6:6; 12:1-11; 13:1-2; 16:25)
- ◆ Their prayer begins by focusing on the _____ of God.
- ◆ _____ God's character gives them hope for the present and future. (Ex. 13:3; Dt. 6:4-9; Joshua 3:1-4:24; Lk. 22:19)
- ◆ They used _____ to direct their prayers. (Neh. 9:5-37; Mt. 27:46)

"Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak Your word with great boldness. Stretch out Your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of Your holy servant Jesus." (Acts 4:29-30)

- ◆ They pray for _____ to continue Jesus' mission.
- ◆ They don't pray for their _____ to change – they pray for God to change _____.
- ◆ Praying for boldness can lead to praying _____.
- (Ex. 33:18; Joshua 10; Mt. 6:10; Mark 5:21-43; Heb. 4:16; James 1:6)
- ◆ They were _____ with the Holy Spirit. (Lk. 4:1; Acts 4:8, 13:52; Eph. 5:18)
- ◆ Will we be a people who give ourselves to _____?