



SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024

Rev. Larry D. Green, Pastor

RENEWING OUR DEVOTION

The Priority of Prayer in the Life and Mission of the Church
(Colossians 4:2-6)

INTRODUCTION:

THE _____ ... FROM JERUSALEM TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH (Acts 1:12-14)

“...but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

—Luke 24:49a

“Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴ These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

—Acts 1:12-14

“They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

—Acts 2:42

“But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

—Acts 6:4

1A. THE _____ TO PRAYER (4:2a)

“Devote yourselves to prayer,...”

2A. THE _____ OF PRAYER (4:2b)

“...keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving.”

1B. _____

“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints...”

—Ephesians 6:18

2B. _____

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”

—Philippians 4:6

3A. THE _____ IN PRAYER (4:3-4)

“...praying at the same time for us as well...”

• The focus is the _____ and _____ of the gospel!

1B. ...that the _____ would open _____ to make it _____.

“...that God will open up to us a door for the word...”

1C. Open doors and the _____ of _____.

“Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and when a door was opened for me in the Lord...”

—2 Corinthians 2:12

2C. Open doors and the _____ of _____.

“For a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.”

—1 Corinthians 16:9

3C. Open doors and the _____ of _____.

“I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.”

—Revelation 3:8

2B. ...that _____ would open our _____ to make it _____.

“...so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.”

3B. ...that the _____ would open _____ to make it _____.

“...for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction...”

—1 Thessalonians 1:5

4A. THE _____ TO PRAYER (4:5-6)

“Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.”

• _____ and _____ Living!

CONCLUSION: