There Is More Part 3: Partnering in Prayer

1. Praying Together is Where the Church was Born

Acts 1:12-14 (NLT) – Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile. When they arrived, they went to the *upstairs room* of the house where they were staying...They all met together and were *constantly united in prayer*, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.

Acts 2:1-4 (NLT) – On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And *everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit* and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

2. Praying Together is <u>What</u> the Church Does

21:12 (NIV) – Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves.

Matthew 21:13 (NIV) – "It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be called a *house of prayer*,' but you are making it 'a den of robbers.""

Matthew 18:19-20 (NLT) – "I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where *two or three gather together* as my followers, *I am there among them*."

3. Praying Together is How the Church Grows

Acts 2:42 (NLT) – ALL the *believers devoted themselves* to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), *and to prayer*.

Acts 2:43-47 (NLT) – A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many *miraculous signs and wonders*. And all the believers met together in one place and *shared everything they had*. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day *the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.*

Acts 4:24 (NLT) – When they heard the report, all the believers lifted their voices together in prayer to God...

Acts 4:29–31 (NLT) – And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great **boldness** in preaching your word. Stretch out your hand with **healing power**; may **miraculous signs and wonders** be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were **all filled with the Holy Spirit**. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.