



Pray First: The ACTS Method

January 1, 2023 @ 11AM

We have more to share. Text **CONNECT** to **888-644-4034**

Doyle A. Jackson

I. The Early Church


Acts 4:23-24; 28-31 (NIV) *Peter and John have just been released from the Sanhedrin at the Temple in Jerusalem* **23** On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. **24** 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.

28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. **29** Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. **30** Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

 A church _____.

II. Adoration

 Begin with God's authority and power.

Psalms 100:5 (NIV) For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Matthew 6:9-10 (NIV) *Jesus teaching us to pray* **9** "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, **10** your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.


III. Confession

Psalms 32:3-5 (NIV) *David teaches us to confess* **3** When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. **4** For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. **5** Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

1 John 1:8-10 (NIV) **8** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

 Sin must be _____ honestly.

IV. Thanksgiving

 What is the Holy Spirit doing?


Matthew 15:36 (NIV) **36** Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people. (See Mark 8:6; John 6:11)

John 11:41 (NIV) **41** So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me.


Luke 22:17-20 (NIV) **17** After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. **18** For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

19 And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

20 In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

 We are awaiting our groom, _____.

V. Supplication

 Are you asking God to _____ things up?

Philippians 4:6 (NIV) **6** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

John 17:15-17 (NIV) *Jesus prays for us, his disciples* **15** My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. **16** They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. **17** Sanctify them by [the] truth; your word is truth.

This Week's Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen)

- Sun. Jan. 1, Gen 1-3
- Mon Jan. 2, Gen 4-7
- Tue Jan. 3, Gen 8-11
- Wed Jan. 4, Gen 12-15
- Thur. Jan. 5, Gen 16-18
- Fri. Jan. 6, Gen 19-21
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