

- 1) Welcome and Review
 - a. Key text Acts 2:42-47
 - b. Mike – importance of being devoted to teaching... to learning... doctrine matters
 - c. David – Fellowship and breaking of bread – koinonia
- 2) Greek word for “devoted” is only used 10 times in New Testament...
 - a. recurring theme that is mentioned in 5 of those 10 verses...
 - i. 50% of the time this word was used, it was used in reference to prayer.
- 3) Devoted to Prayer... Acts 2:42c
 - a. ...from the beginnings of the church (Acts 1:14)
 - b. And as the church grew (Acts 2:42)
 - c. As it faced growing pains (Acts 6:4)
 - d. As the Gospel spread (Romans 12:12 and Colossians 4:2) ... they stayed devoted
 - e. Not just “to prayer” but literally to “the prayers” - its plural.
 - i. Prayer is multifaceted
 - ii. Personal and corporate; different types of prayers
- 4) Eph 6:18 “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”
- 5) “Pray in the Spirit...”
 - a. The Holy Spirit helps us.
 - b. Access to the Father through the Christ by one Spirit.
 - c. We don’t truly pray “on our own”. We pray within and because of our relationship with the Godhead.
 - d. Prayer isn’t just a ritual or obligation or only for desperation or a want.
 - i. Prayer is part of our restored relationship with God
 1. We are invited into that relationship through the Gospel
 2. Marriage as a practical example of communication in relationships.
 3. Like we do with our spouse, we should be talking to God each day and multiple times a day.
- 6) “...on all occasions...”
 - a. The “when” of prayers.
 - b. How do you spend your time? Distracted and zoned out? Or in prayer?
 - c. We pray during the mountain tops and valleys, in desperation or celebration, during the inconvenient and opportune times, whether busy or at rest.
 - d. “Pray without ceasing” as Paul said elsewhere.
- 7) “...all kinds of prayers and request...”
 - a. “What kind” of prayers.... What about content?
 - b. Nothing is too big and nothing too small. Nothing will surprise Him.
 - c. We are God’s children. Even imperfect, flawed human fathers like me want to hear from their children... how much more does a perfect and loving Father in Heaven want to hear from us, His children?

- 8) "...be alert..."
 - a. Follows "Armor of God" passage
 - b. Spiritual warfare
 - c. Stay awake and keep watch
 - i. Jesus's words to Peter in Gethsemane: "watch and pray" so that you will not fall into temptation."
 - ii. Continuing in prayer keeps up alert; it's a vital tool in the daily and moment to moment spiritual battles.
- 9) "...always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."
 - a. Prayer isn't just about us.
 - i. We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ.
 - ii. We are a Forever Family.
 - iii. Examples of times I have personally been impacted by prayer.
 - iv. Our Response Time is important. Honor it and those who need prayers.
- 10) How WFR shows its devotion to prayer:
 - a. Prayer Warriors
 - b. Prayer Room
 - c. Prayer Lunch
 - d. Prayer Team at CR
 - e. Prayer Walk
- 11) "The people of God pray".... [WORSHIP TEAM BACK UP]... Quick recap of major points and invitation.