

A COMMUNITY UNITED IN PRAYER  
Acts 1:12-26 (CSB)

*Then they returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem—a Sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they arrived, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. <sup>14</sup>They all were continually united in prayer, along with the women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. <sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the brothers and sisters—the number of people who were together was about a hundred twenty—and said, <sup>16</sup>“Brothers and sisters, it was necessary that the Scripture be fulfilled that the Holy Spirit through the mouth of David foretold about Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. <sup>17</sup>For he was one of our number and shared in this ministry.” <sup>18</sup>Now this man acquired a field with his unrighteous wages. He fell headfirst, his body burst open and his intestines spilled out. <sup>19</sup>This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, so that in their own language that field is called Hakeldama (that is, Field of Blood). <sup>20</sup>“For it is written in the Book of Psalms: Let his dwelling become desolate; let no one live in it; and Let someone else take his position. <sup>21</sup>“Therefore, from among the men who have accompanied us during the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us—<sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day he was taken up from us—from among these, it is necessary that one become a witness with us of his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two: Joseph, called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed, “You, Lord, know everyone’s hearts; show which of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this apostolic ministry that Judas left to go where he belongs.” <sup>26</sup>Then they cast lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias and he was added to the eleven apostles.*

Acts 1:12-26 (CSB)

1. Prayer should be our CORPORATE PRIORITY.

*And it will be in the last days, says God, that I will pour out my Spirit on all people; then your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. <sup>18</sup>I will even pour out my Spirit on my servants in those days, both men and women and they will prophesy. <sup>19</sup>I will display wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below: blood and fire and a cloud of smoke. <sup>20</sup>The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the great and glorious day of the Lord comes. <sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Acts 2:17-21 (CSB)

*They all were continually united in prayer, along with the women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.*

Acts 1:14 (CSB)

*They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer.*

Acts 2:42 (CSB)

2. Prayer should be our PERSONAL HABIT.

*... pray constantly...*

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (CSB)

*"You will call to me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup>You will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart."*

Jeremiah 29:12-13 (CSB)

3. Prayer should be our ESSENTIAL STRATEGY.

*First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone...*

1 Timothy 2:1 (CSB)

*Therefore, with your minds ready for action, be sober-minded and set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>As obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires of your former ignorance. <sup>15</sup>But as the one who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct; <sup>16</sup>for it is written, Be holy, because I am holy. <sup>17</sup>If you appeal to the Father who judges impartially according to each one's work, you are to conduct yourselves in reverence during your time living as strangers. <sup>18</sup>For you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of an unblemished and spotless lamb. <sup>20</sup>He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was revealed in these last times for you. <sup>21</sup>Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. <sup>22</sup>Since you have purified yourselves by your obedience to the truth, so that you show sincere brotherly love for each other, from a pure heart love one another constantly, <sup>23</sup>because you have been born again—not of perishable seed but of imperishable—through the living and enduring word of God. <sup>24</sup>For All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like a flower of the grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, <sup>25</sup>but the word of the Lord endures forever. And this word is the gospel that was proclaimed to you.*

1 Peter 1:13-25 (CSB)