



Spirit Empowered C H U R C H

Spirit Empowered Church

Part 6

July 24, 2022

Acts 2:41-47, ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. ⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to

all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

May the Lord add His Blessing to the Reading and the Hearing of His Word. Amen. You may be seated...

Today we will be wrapping up our series addressing the need to be a “Spirit Empowered Church”. As I have stated many times already; The First Century Church was a Spirit Empowered Church and the End Time Church must be a Spirit Empowered Church as well. And a vital part of being Spirit Empowered is having a Prayer Life; not just a Prayer Time.

It is my honest opinion and my Biblical position that a Church’s overall health is determined by these four facets of the Early Church: Doctrinally Sound, Relationally Connected, Building Community, and Spiritually Developing. Furthermore, it is my firm belief that when these four facets are in operation that the church will see miracles and the Move of the Spirit as common place and not as rare experiences.

And Prayer is key to such being common place! So point #1...

1. A Spirit Empowered Church is a Prayerful Church

a. The Gospel of Saint Matthew 6:5-8, “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”⁷ “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

b. According to this text, it can be easily surmised that Christ expected His Church to pray. Note that Jesus did not say if you pray; He said when you pray. He expects His Church to be prayerful and spiritually developing.

c. I truly believe that if we understood just how powerful prayer was then we would spend more time doing it.

d. Prayer should not be the seatbelt of our lives but rather the vehicle of our lives! It shouldn't be an insurance policy or a failsafe but rather a basic necessity of daily function in our lives of faith.

e. Remember, A Spirit Empowered Church is a Prayerful Church!

2. A Spirit Empowered Church makes Prayer a Priority and not Optional

- a. Philippians 4:4-7, “⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
- b. Church, far too many of us have allowed the cares of this life to strip from us our Joy in the Lord! The Bible doesn't command of us to rejoice FOR all things but it does say for us to rejoice IN all things!
- c. Notice how prayer and supplication should be performed with a heart of thanksgiving when we make our requests known to God.
- d. Our heart and our perspective, when it comes to prayer, is vitally important and directly impacts how and for what we pray for.
- e. We must be willing to make prayer a priority and not allow it to remain an option.
- f. We have our prayer language for a reason. We have access to the throne room of God in prayer for a reason. We were expected to pray for a reason. Jesus prayed and He was the Son of God.

- g. Prayer must be a priority; it must be returned back to its rightful place of authority.
- h. Remember, A Spirit Empowered Church makes Prayer a Priority and not Optional.
- i. And finally, Point #3...

3. A Spirit Empowered Church is a Prayerful Church that Makes Much Power Available

- a. The Gospel of Saint Mark 11:22-25, “²² And Jesus answered them, “Have faith in God.²³ Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.²⁴ Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.²⁵ And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.”
- b. Say to this Mountain! A mountain is an immovable object that stands in our way! The Bible doesn't command of us to climb mountains; to be mountain climbers! The Bible teaches us to be Mountain Movers!

- c. Prayer empowers us to do the impossible by faith! When the odds look completely against us, Jesus commands us to speak to it. Now pray about it but speak to it and command it to shift. There's a time to pray to the Father and then there's a time to prophesy under the authority of Christ by faith against the mountain.
- d. By Faith, we speak things that are not as though they were until they are! We speak prophetically to mountains by Faith with earnest expectation that we will see the Mountain moved in our Lives! We need to stop praying about our mountain and begin speaking to it!
- e. Job 22:26-28, "For then you will have your delight in the Almighty, And lift up your face to God. ²⁷ You will make your prayer to Him, He will hear you, And you will pay your vows. ²⁸ You will also declare a thing, And it will be established for you; So light will shine on your ways."

Prayer Time

1 = 1,000

2 = 10,000

Power of Agreement in Prayer