



Acts 1:14
August 8, 2021 | Dr. Jimmy Stewart

Sermon Summary

God wants to communicate with you and He wants you to communicate with Him. When you need Him, He's always there. Why not talk to Him regularly? All the time? How much time do you spend on your phone each day? Week? Month? We talk to others more and are more connected than ever before in history and yet, it seems, we spend less and less time talking to our Heavenly Father. Jesus clearly taught that when we ask we receive. What is it that you need? What do we need in our church? What do we need in our country? The disciples were waiting and praying in the Upper Room after Jesus' ascension. They were all in ONE ACCORD (Acts 1:14). May we join together communicating to the Lord in this season the same things at the same time with passion and persistence so we can all be in ONE ACCORD!

Diving Into The Message

"All who have walked with God have viewed prayer as the main business of their lives."
Richard Foster - *Celebration of Discipline*

And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed, **Mark 1:35**

Early will I seek thee **Psalms 63:1**

"I have so much business I cannot get on without spending three hours daily in prayer." Martin Luther

"God does nothing but in answer to prayer," John Wesley

Acts 1:6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my

witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

ONE ACCORD - Rush Along in Unison

As the instruments of a great concert under the direction of a concert master, so the Holy Spirit blends together the lives of members of Christ's church. KJV New Testament Greek Lexicon

Attentive focused prayer of 12 minutes over 8 weeks can be measured in a brain scan

Attentive Focused Prayer can...

1. Strengthen areas of the brain involved in social interaction
2. Increase a sense of compassion and sensitivity toward others
3. Reduce stress
4. Lower blood pressure
5. Help override emotional and irrational urges
6. Expand thoughtful and rational responses
7. Multiply a sense of peace and well-being

“Focused, attentive prayer changes me and allows me to experience God in a way that other forms of worship cannot.” Rob Moll

Praise, Return - 6 Minutes in PRAISE & 6 Minutes in RETURN

*if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and **pray** and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

2 Chronicles 7:14

Psalm 51:1-17

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:10



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Life Application Questions

1. On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your prayer life this week?
2. What can you do daily this week to increase your number?
3. What does attentive focused prayer require? Provide? What length of time in prayer makes sense to you? What steps must you take to increase your time daily in prayer?
4. What does it mean to return to God in prayer? In what areas of your life do you need to “return”to God?
5. How will you make “praise” and “return” priorities in you prayer time each day?
6. Do you pray early in the morning or late in the day?
7. Will you commit to spend at least 12 minutes a day in prayer? 6 minutes in praise? 6 minutes in return?