

ONE ACCORD: United in Prayer - Yield
Acts 1:14

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? The Bible declares that when we yield to the Father, He hears and answers our prayers (1 John 5:14-15). 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' death, burial, resurrection and ascension. They were all together in ONE ACCORD (Acts 1:14). May we, as a church family, 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!

125 Days of United Prayer ~ August 29 - December 31 ~ In recognition of all that God has done in and through First Baptist Church Gulfport over 125 years!

Prayer - *secret, fervent, believing prayer* - lies at the root of all personal godliness.
William Carey

P.R.A.Y. = Praise ~ Return ~ Ask ~ YIELD

And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." Matthew 26:39

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. 1 John 5:14-15

A Praying Church is a United Church! Acts 1:12-15

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. In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) Acts 1:12-15

And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles. Acts 1:23-26

A Praying Church is a Blessed Church! Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:1-4

Prayer Focus ~ August 29 - September 5

PRAISE: "God, our Heavenly Father, thank you for 125 years of ministry in and through First Baptist Church Gulfport on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and around the world."

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. Matthew 6:13 NKJV

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. 1 Chronicles 29:11-12

A Praying Church is a Growing Church! Acts 2:38-47

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and **there were added that day about three thousand souls.**

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. **And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.** Acts 2:38-47

Sermon Application Questions

1. Ask someone to name the four words from the ONE ACCORD sermon series for the acrostic for P.R.A.Y.
2. Ask for volunteers to give a description of each word. Praise. Return. Ask. Yield.
3. Which of the four areas of P.R.A.Y. is most natural for you? Which is most challenging?
4. Describe your prayer experiences during this series of sermons?
5. What have you learned that you will continue to apply in your prayer times?
6. Lead your group through a directed time of prayer.
 - Praise. Focus on who God is and what He has done.
 - Return. Focus on your position with God and any area of disobedience.
 - Ask. Focus on what you need from God to accomplish His will in your life.
 - Yield. Focus on living in obedience in all areas of your life.
7. Ask someone to pray and include the 125 Day weekly prayer request for this week.

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