

A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month: The Church's Rule of Life

Text for the Week: Acts 2:42

Message for the Week: "They Devoted Themselves to Prayer"

Theme for the Week: We must be devoted to one another

Week 10

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

Do you have a prayer room or a specific place you spend time in prayer? Share a recent answer to a prayer.

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read Acts 2:42 out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them those who are with you.

OVER

Respond / Reflect:

"They all joined together constantly in prayer." [Acts 1:14] What does it mean to pray together constantly?

How often do you/we pray? What adjectives would you use to describe your habit of prayer? If everyone prayed together as much you, how healthy would our church be?

Is prayer primarily talking to God or listening to God?

What does listening for the Holy Spirit mean to you?

Why is it so important to pray together?
Why is corporate prayer emphasized throughout the book of Acts?

"Try It!"

Gather a few people (including children) to pray together. Let the Holy Spirit guide your prayer. (Remember that God hears our silent prayers as clearly as He hears our audible prayer.)

Commit to including silence in your prayer time. Listen for the Holy Spirit.

Have a movie night sometime this week and watch War Room.

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer regarding the things God revealed and that you discerned in your time with God today.

Also, spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you...pray this prayer.

Lord,

We pray for an outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray that the Spirit will reveal Christ to us. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray that the Spirit will shape us in the character of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray that the Spirit will equip us for the mission of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray that the Spirit will form us by the early church's rule of life; devotion to the Apostle's Teaching, to the fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer.

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

Missional Practice for the Month:

Use the prayer above each day to pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit for your immediate neighbors on either side (to the right and left) of your house. Sometime during the month, when prompted by the Spirit, bring an expression of appreciation to each of these neighbors. This could be a potted mum, a dozen cookies, a gift card, etc., with a note that says, "I'm glad you are my neighbor!"