



A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month:	The Church's Mission
Text for the Week:	Acts 4:23-31
Message for the Week:	"Praying the Believers' Prayer"
Theme for the Week:	The method of mission is prayer

Week 13

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?

What is your first experience of sincere heartfelt prayer that you can recall? What happened?

Preparation:

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

Read:

Read [Acts 4:23-31](#) 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.

Respond / Reflect:

Listen to the song [“Do It Again”](#) by Elevation Worship

Why does prayer seem to play such a minimal role in the North American church today?

What if we prioritized prayer in our lives and our church? What would it mean to have prayer become part of our DNA?

How is God shaking up your world today? Where are you experiencing the quivering joy of the Spirit? When was the last time the Spirit of God brought you to your knees?

How would your prayers have to change to pray boldly?

“Try It!”

In addition to your regular prayers, for 10 minutes each day...pray for family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers—by name out loud. Bring them by name before God. Allow the Spirit to guide your prayers. Children and students, help your family create the list of people for whom you will pray. Pray together as a family. (See missional practice for the month)

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 those living on your block in your neighborhood, for those living in your condo or apartment building and/or your co-workers. Sometime during the month, when prompted by the Spirit, try and break bread (eat or drink) with one or two of them to get to know them better.