

Why are Church Prayer Meetings Important? Part 2
GCC, Vesper, 8/25/19

Introduction (Review):

- A. The Means of Grace in Acts 2:42
- B. Review of last week
 - 1. Prayer is a means of grace
 - 2. Reformation and Revival, in church history, has almost always been preceded by the corporate prayer of God's people.
 - 3. "We shall never see much change in our churches in general until the prayer meeting occupies a much higher place in the esteem of Christians." --Spurgeon
 - 4. That the Lord has given us Sunday, the market Day of the Soul for the primary purpose of Corporate prayer.

Why are Church Prayer Meetings Important?

- I. Because the Native Instinct of Man is to Cry out to his Creator for help (Gen 4:26)
"At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD."
- II. Because God Delights to Answer Petitions by multiple signatures (Matt 18:19)
- III. Because God Commands us to Pray as a People (1 Tim 2)
 - A. The Purpose of Paul's Epistle to Timothy (1 Tim 3:14, 15)
 - B. The Broadline Evangelical Church has conditioned us to read the bible in primarily individual categories
 - C. The Church as Church is Exhorted to Pray (1 Tim 2)
 - 1. *Paul urges the church as church to pray (2:1)*
 - 2. *Paul urges individuals in the church as church to pray (2:8)*
 - 3. *Prayer meetings are not only commanded by God, but are also "good and pleasing in the sight of God (2:3).*

Practical Reflections:

- 1. **God has given us a time and a place for corporate prayer**
- 2. **God has given us the precious prayers of the saints to instruct us in how to pray**
- 3. **Children imitate the spiritual disciplines of their parents**