

If my people pray

Corporate Prayer Acts 6:1-7 Message Reflection Guide

The first century church believed in the power of corporate prayer. That simply means they made it their regular practice to pray together. Prayer was not something that was peripheral to their gatherings—it was central.

Visit your local Christian bookstore and you will discover that the fiction section occupies a more prominent place than the section devoted to books on prayer. The reason is that prayer is hard. It is something that all of us know we ought to give ourselves to, but all of us are weak. And yet nothing unleashes the power of God in the church like prayer does. This is why Satan opposes it so much.

The church in the book of Acts multiplied disciples because they gave themselves to prayer. In fact, the church was born out of a prayer meeting in the very first chapter: **Acts 1:14**—“*...all those with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer.*”

Conversation Starter

Our prayer series theme is: “**When we rely on ourselves, we get what we can do. When we rely on prayer, we get what God can do.**” What are the dangers of any church relying more on their own gifts and skills than on God through prayer?

Getting Into The Scriptures

Read aloud Acts 6:1-7.

Pastor Jason said “**God calls the church to pray and seek Him together.**” What role does humility play in the life of the church?

When we pray together God is glorified. In what ways do you look for credit or approval? How can you give God glory in your day?

When we pray together God unifies us. What is the difference between unity and uniformity? Why do you believe unity is so important in the church?

When we pray together God prepares us for war. When you think about a spiritual battle that cannot be seen, what emotions come to mind? Have you ever experienced spiritual warfare? What happened?

When we pray together God prepares us for Kingdom work. Sin drives us to build our own kingdom, Jesus invites us to build His Kingdom; one that will last. What gifts and talents do you have and how do you think they can be used to do Kingdom work?

When we pray together God enlarges our vision. What are your hopes and dreams for Iron Mill Church? How do you think they align with the vision to “Love Audaciously?”

Making It Real

What burdens has God placed on your heart for the church? How can you be interceding for the church this week?