

A Fellowship of Prayer

A true church is a praying church. We see this in Acts 2:42, *“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.”* The early church learned this practice from the Head of the Church, our Lord Jesus Christ who declared with a holy violence that the church was to be a fellowship of prayer, *“Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.”*¹³ *And He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’* Matt. 21:12-13

Following are six marks of a praying church. It is my hope that identifying these six marks, will not only increase our knowledge of prayer, but will also boost our desire and joy to become evermore, a praying church:

- I. A praying church desires to pray - the impulse to pray, Rom 8:26
- II. A praying church is an obedient church - the command to pray, 1 Tim 2:1-6; Matt 6:5-15
- III. A praying church prays with the right disposition - the way to pray, Heb. 10:19-22
- IV. A praying church is a bold church - the confidence in prayer, 1 John 5:14-15
- V. A praying church is a submissive church - the time to stop asking in prayer, 2 Cor 12:7-10
- VI. A praying church knows how pleasing prayer is to God - the preciousness of prayer, Revelation 5:8