

Why are Church Prayer Meetings Important? Part 1
GCC, Vesper Service, 8/18/19

Introduction:

- A. Acts 2:42 describes that to which the church devoted herself
- B. Prayer meetings are not optional. They are the privilege of the church
- C. Reformation and Revival have almost always been preceded by the corporate prayers of the saints.
- D. Unfortunately, prayer meetings have fallen on bad times
- E. “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.” --Charles Spurgeon

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)
- 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. Note 3 things about this text:
 - a. Paul urges the church as church to pray (2:1)
 - b. Paul urges individuals in the church as church to pray (2:8)
 - c. 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