

BEING THE KINGDOM

SUMMARY...

If we want to see the Kingdom of God grow, then we need to follow the pattern we see in Scripture. Namely, we must be a people who pray! The book of Acts makes clear that prayer carries the narrative of the Kingdom of God expanding, extending, and exploding. The only question we need to be able to answer is “What do we pray for?” In the coming decade, we will see the Kingdom of God grow when we pray for people and boldly preach the Gospel.

MAIN POINTS...

- Prayer Fueled the Early Church
- The Kingdom of God Grows When People Pray
- Pray for Others & Preach the Gospel

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...

Share with each other how the 21 days of Prayer has been thus far.

Ask: Where do you sense God is calling you to invest in God’s Kingdom this year?

1. How much of your year do you think you’ve spent on yourself? How might you categorize your time? Consider where you spend it (home, work, entertainment, church, etc).
2. Read Acts 1:14 and 2:42. What sticks out to you about how they lived? How do our lives reflect that of the early church? What would need to change in your life / habits to reflect a life devoted to God?
3. Do you resonate with having a ‘Holy Discontentment’? How so?
4. Do you really think prayer is the fuel to the Kingdom of God growing, or do we need to be doing more?
5. Ask the people in your GROUP to each read one of the verses listed below. Collectively, what do the scriptures teach us about what it takes to establish and grow the kingdom of God?
6. Who is one person you could be praying for and sharing the Gospel with? What keeps you from doing either of these things?

BIBLICAL TEXTS CITED...

All from the book of **ACTS**

1:14 ... all these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer together... (24) and they prayed.

2: 42... And they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching, and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

3:1... Peter and John were going to the temple at the hour of prayer.

4: 24... they lifted their voices together to God...(31) and when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

6: 4... But we will devote ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the word... (6) These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

8: 14... Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.

9: 10 – 11... The Lord said to Ananias in a vision, go to the street and look for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for behold he is praying.

9: 40... But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed

10:2... Cornelius was a devote man who feared God with his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continuously.

12: 5. Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

12:12 When he realized this, he went to the mother of John, where many were gathered and were praying...

28:30-31... He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the Kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hinderance.