

# WHAT IS CHURCH? *The church defined.*

Autumn Preaching Series | Sep—Dec 2021

 NEXT





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# What is church? *A people of prayer.*

ACTS 2:36—47



# ACTS

## 2:42

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread **and to prayer.**



## ACTS 1:14

They all joined together **constantly in prayer**, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.



# ACTS

## 3:1

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple **at the time of prayer** – at three in the afternoon.



## ACTS 4:24

When they heard this, they raised their voices **together in prayer** to God.

‘Sovereign Lord,’ they said, ‘you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.’



## ACTS 12:5

So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was **earnestly praying** to God for him.



## ACTS 16:13

On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we **expected to find a place of prayer.** We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.



# PRAYER ISN'T ALWAYS EASY.

## LUKE 11:1

“Lord teach  
us to pray.”

## LUKE 18:1

"Jesus told a  
parable...to show  
them they should  
always pray and  
not give up."



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**“OUR FATHER IN  
HEAVEN, HALLOWED  
BE YOUR NAME,**

Prayer is about  
relational intimacy &  
presence



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

“YOUR  
KINGDOM  
COME,  
YOUR WILL  
BE DONE,  
ON EARTH AS  
IT IS IN  
HEAVEN.”



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Prayer is  
about  
rebellion

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

“GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD.”



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Prayer is about petition and provision



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**“AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE ALSO HAVE FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS.”**

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Prayer is about breathless wonder



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**“AND LEAD US NOT INTO  
TEMPTATION, BUT  
DELIVER US FROM THE  
EVIL ONE.”**

Prayer is about  
spiritual warfare



**PRAYING  
TOGETHER**



# GENESIS

## 4:26

Seth also had a son, and he named him Enosh.

At that time people began to call on the name of the Lord.





# REVELATION

## 19:1-2a

After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting:

‘Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and just are his judgments.



**PRAYING  
TOGETHER**



# PRAYING TOGETHER.

Why does it matter?  
Why is it important?



PRAYER  
TOGETHER IS 'US'  
NOT ONLY 'ME'

# PRAYING TOGETHER.

Why does it matter?  
Why is it important?



PRAYER  
TOGETHER IS 'US'  
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PRAYER  
TOGETHER IS A  
UNITED BODY

# PRAYING TOGETHER.

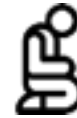
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PRAYER  
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PRAYER TOGETHER  
IS A RICHNESS OF  
DIFFERENT STYLES

# DIFFERENT WAYS OF PRAYING IN THE BIBLE.

**CONTEMPLATION/MEDITATION** [Ps. 19:14]

**INTERCESSION** [1 Tim. 2:1]

**BLESSING & ADORATION** [Ps. 99:9]

**CONSECRATION/DEDICATION** [2 Ch. 29:31]

**THANKSGIVING** [Ps. 100:4]

**SILENCE** [Ps. 46:10]

**PRAISE** [Lk. 1:68]

**LISTENING** [Ps. 27:14]

**CONFESSION** [1 Jn. 1:9]

**PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT** [Eph. 6:18]

**PETITION & SUPPLICATION** [Ez. 8:23]

**SPIRITUAL WARFARE** [Eph. 6:12]



# DIFFERENT WAYS OF PRAYING IN THE BIBLE CONT.

**STANDING** [1 Ki. 8:22]

**BLOWING TRUMPETS** [2 Chron. 23:13]

**HANDS RAISED** [1 Tim. 2:8]

**DANCING** [2 Sam. 6:14]

**SITTING** [2 Sam. 7:18]

**PLAYING INSTRUMENTS** [Ps. 149:3]

**KNEELING** [Dan. 6:10]

**SINGING** [Is. 14:7]

**BOWING** [Gen. 24:26]

**WEEPING** [1 Sam. 1:10]

**FACE DOWN** [Num. 20:6]

**FASTING** [Lk. 2:37]

**SACKCLOTH & ASHES** [Jer. 6:26]

**LAMENT** [Ps. 5:1]



# PRAYING TOGETHER.

Why does it matter?  
Why is it important?



PRAYER  
TOGETHER IS 'US'  
NOT ONLY 'ME'



PRAYER  
TOGETHER IS A  
UNITED BODY



PRAYER TOGETHER  
IS A RICHNESS OF  
DIFFERENT STYLES



PRAYER TOGETHER  
IS THE SUPPORT OF  
EACH OTHER



A group of men in suits are gathered outdoors, some with their heads bowed in prayer. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. The text "SO LET'S PRAY TOGETHER" is centered in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**SO LET'S  
PRAY  
TOGETHER**

