

Corporate Prayer

Acts 2:42-47 & 4:32-35



Corporate Prayer



I ❤️
INDIVIDUALISM

Our context



IDOLATRY OF
INDIVIDUALISM





Individualism

Individual prayer





Lord teach US to pray

Give US today OUR daily bread

Forgive US OUR sins

Lead US not into temptation

Deliver US from the evil one

“Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

Matthew 18:19-20

Two types of corporate prayer

Liturgical prayer

Prayer that is lead by a person



♥
**KEEP
CALM
AND
SURSUM
CORDA**

Acts 2:42-47

- Lit: “the prayers”. The first disciples probably followed the Jewish liturgical prayers
- Acts 2: 1 - When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.



Acts 2:42-47

- Acts 3:1 “One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer – at three in the afternoon.”
- Isaac’s Mincha Prayer – Psalm 145



Acts 2:42-47

- Prayer as part of the life of the Christian community

Prayer for today

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

AMEN.

Why corporate liturgical prayer?

Unity of purpose



I am because we are

Why corporate liturgical prayer?

Worship



Acts 4:24-29 –Context of prayer

- Healing of the man at the beautiful gate (3:1-10)
- Peter speaks to the people (3:11-26)
- Threats and arrest of Peter and John (4:1-7)



Acts 4:24-29 –Context of prayer

- Peter speaks to the elders and the teachers of the law (4:8-12)
- Meeting of the elders and the teachers of the law and subsequent threats (4:13-22)



Content of prayer

- Who God is (4:24) – He is sovereign
- What he did in creation (4:24)
- What he did in revelation (4:25)

Content of prayer

- Opposition to God in the OT (4:25b-26)
- Opposition to God in the life of Jesus (4:27)
- God is in control (4:28; cf. vs. 24.)

Content of prayer

- Request: God take note of the threats; that the disciples are able to speak (4:29)
- Request: God do signs and wonders through the name of Jesus (4:30).

So, why corporate prayer?

Encouragement

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.



I Thessalonians 5¹¹

So?

- Let us, as a church community, be open to old and new forms of corporate prayer
- Let be unified by this prayer
- Let us worship together not worshipping separately but just happen to be in the same room!
- Let us encourage one another by praying with and for one another