The Importance of Corporate Prayer Acts 2:40-47 January 26, 2014

Main Point:

As a member of this redeemed community of believers, devote yourself to the ministry of corporate prayer.

- 1. As a redeemed community of believers in the past, the early church was devoted to certain ministries.
- 2. As a redeemed community of believers today, we should also be devoted to these same ministries.
- 3. One of the key ministries we are to be devoted to as a congregation is corporate prayer.
- 4. God often uses the corporate prayers of His church to bring about great things.
- 5. As a member of this redeemed community of believers, devote yourself to the ministry of corporate prayer.

Quotations and Cross-References

Dennis Johnson "The summaries of the church's life and growth in the early chapters of Acts give us a glimpse of how the church behaves when it is a normal, healthy, holy community."

Definition: "Corporate prayer is a meeting of members of a Christian congregation at times (stated or unstated) other than the public worship services for the purpose of engaging in united prayer."

John Gill "Not only in their closets, and in their families, but in the church; in the public prayers of the church, they observed all opportunities of this kind, and gladly embraced them."

Romans 12:12 ¹² rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, <u>continuing</u> <u>steadfastly in prayer;</u> (NKJV)

Colossians 4:2 ² <u>Continue earnestly in prayer</u>, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; (NKJV)

Charles Spurgeon "We shall never the much change for the better in our churches in general till the prayer meeting occupies a higher place in the esteem of Christians."