

Prayer and Movement

“Without me you can do nothing” is a wake-up call to us by Jesus (John 15:5). Prayer is dependence upon Jesus to see supernatural things happen that are not attainable through human effort. Revival movements of the past were steeped in prayer and repentance, putting believers in a position to see God do the miraculous. Without attempting to replicate the past, what is the praying posture of movement leaders today? How can we learn from one another to trust God for a greater harvest?

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Introduction:

“To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.” – Martin Luther King Jr.

“Prayer is a master weapon. We should be greatly wise if we used it more and did so with more specific purpose.” – C. H. Spurgeon

- I. We will pray personally
 - A. The first three petitions of the Disciple’s prayer – Recalibrate the heart
 - B. Our praying is seeing into the future – The Harvest is ripe (Matt 9:38)
 - C. Our praying is expectant looking to see – Eyes wide open (Col 4:2)
 - D. Our praying is thanking God for the answers before they come – Faith
- II. We will personally and with others practice the spiritual disciplines
 - A. The disciplines of engagement (things we do)
 1. Bible Study

2. Feasting – Celebration
3. Service

4. Submission (committing ourselves unto the Lord wholly)
5. Worship (responding with all we are to all God is)
6. Simplicity (being satisfied with less)

B. The disciplines of non-engagement (things we stop doing)

1. Solitude (breaks our dependence on people)
2. Silence (breaks our dependence upon our speech to manage our lives)
3. Fasting (John 4, nourishing our souls and bodies with Jesus)
4. Lectio divina (the Scriptures speak to us, we listen)
5. Secretly serving others (breaks the power of pride)
6. Meditation (on the Scriptures or on Creation – the Lord speaks to us)

III. We will pray specifically for a church planting movement to take hold

- A. Bold, offensive praying (versus defensive praying)
- B. Trust God for what is beyond human capability
- C. In prayer we will “see” what will be and thank God for it (2 Chron 20)
- D. We will rejoice as we see “His kingdom coming”

IV. We will practice lectio divina as it relates to church planting multiplication