

**“The Necessity of Corporate Prayer in the Church” 8/22/10
Series- Understanding the Nature and Function of the Church**

POINT 1- The necessity of C.P. requires us to recognize a DISTINCTION

- A. The distinction helps us to know that we should pray INDIVIDUALLY (1 Thess 5:17; Luke 21:36; Rom 12:12; 1 Peter 4:7)
- B. The distinction is a reminder that we should pray in SECRET (Matthew 6:6-13; but also notice the hints of “our”, “us”, “we”)

Going Deeper *God wants you to keep your appointment with in private prayer!*

POINT 2- The necessity of C.P. requires us to understand the biblical MODEL

- A. The biblical model of C.P is founded in the OLD TESTAMENT (Ex 15:1-21; Lev 23; 1 Kings 8; Psalm 44; Esther 4:16; Ezra 8:21-23)

"if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 15 "Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place." (2 Chron 7:14-15)

- B. The biblical model of C.P is founded in the NEW TESTAMENT (Acts 1:13-14, 24-25; 2:42-44; 4:24-35; 12:1-12; 13:1-4; 1 Cor 11, 14)

Going Deeper *God wants us follow in the example of the early church!*

POINT 3- The necessity of C.P. requires us to be OBEDIENT

- A. To be obedient means we have to confess our EXCUSES
1) not a priority- 168 hrs, not perfection but characterization; 2) uncomfortable in groups or speaking; 3) maybe we were ignorant of the truth of Scripture; 4) I pray privately; 5) selfish- not other oriented
- B. To be obedient means to look forward to the BLESSINGS
Unity in: 1) praying for God’s will to be accomplished in our church and in worldwide missions; 2) purpose- God’s glory; 3) focus- on other’s needs/hurts/joys; 4) dependence on each other; 5) praying quietly as others pray; 6) praying God’s promises together; 7) hearing God’s truths prayed by others; 8) answered prayer- God’s Power!

Going Deeper *God wants us to RESPOND in obedience to Wednesday or Sunday!*