**Three Basic Prayer Convictions:**

1. **Prayer is the Priority for Christian Living Colossians 4:2**

*“Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving.”*

Jesus modeled the priority of prayer

 -**Mark 1:35; Luke 6:12; Luke 11:1**

 -Prayer was not just part of Jesus’ life, it was His life

*“The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayer-less studies, prayer-less work, and prayer-less religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.”* Samuel Chadwick

1. **Prayer is Christ’s Priority for the Church Mark 11:17**

*“My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations…”*

How are we known in the community?

 -greatest need… not money, advertisements, etc. but praying men and women

*“The most powerful resource of the church is a transformed life. The world is not attracted to Christ by fancy edifices, but by men and women who have the mark of God upon their inner being. Prayer is the branding iron of God. We will not make an impact on our world until we have been marked by the Master. The mark of God upon our inner man will bring victory to churches, communities, and nations. We must learn that victory comes on our knees.”* Sammy Tippit

1. **Prayer together is Priority for the Church Acts 6:4**

*“We will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”*

 -not a reference to their personal prayer life, but the ministry of mobilizing the people of God to pray together

 -two ministries, mobilizing the church to pray and preach/teach the word of God

 -**Acts 1:14, 24; 2:42; 3:1; 4:23-31** every occurrence of prayer leading to this passage is the Apostles leading others in prayer, not once is there personal prayer life recorded

“*The greatest workings of God come by corporate prayer; and will we not see the power of God in sufficient measure to transform the world around us until we pray together. As a leader you must make praying together on the same priority level as preaching/teaching.”* (John Franklin, *And the Place Was Shaken*, page 4)

-of the 37 verses Jesus taught on prayer, 33 are corporate prayer

 -Matthew 7:7; Mark 11:25 the ‘you’ is plural

-Matthew 18:19

-Jesus’ recorded times of private prayer occur prior to choosing the disciples (Mark 1:37; Luke 3:21, 6:12), after choosing them most of his recorded prayer times involved the disciples (Luke 9:28, 11:1; Matthew 26:40)

-Garden of Gethsemane, He invited His disciples to pray with Him

**A Call to Prayer**

1. **Reverence**

**-time of worship, adoration, praise**

**Psalm 100**

\*Someone from the praise team read Psalm 100

2-3 Praise choruses

**Hebrews 13:15**

**Revelation 5:8-14**

1. **Reflection**

**-time of soul searching and waiting on the Father in quiet communication with Him**

\*Quiet instrumental… piano, instrumental CD or other if available

**Psalm 46:10**

**Psalm 62:5-8**

**Psalm 131**

1. **Repentance**

**-a time of acknowledgement and confession of sin**

**Psalm 51**

**Psalm 66:18**

**Psalm 139:23-24**

**Isaiah 59:1-2**

1. **Restoration**

**-a time of gratefully acknowledging the restoration of divine fellowship**

**1 John 1:9**

**Psalm 16:11**

**Lamentations 3:22-23**

1. **Requests**

**-a time of intercession on behalf of others and the church and personal petition**

**Matthew 7:7**

**Philippians 4:6-7**

**James 5:16**

**1 Timothy 2:1**

**-share in groups of four your greatest need, ask person on right to pray for you**

**-share your greatest desire for our church, person on left pray**

**-share at least one lost person and one Christian who needs restoration, person across from you pray**

1. **Renewal**

**-a time of renewing your commitment to spiritual growth and your strength for the spiritual battle**

\*Praise team lead in 2-3 worship songs about spiritual growth and strength…

**Isaiah 40:31**

**Romans 12:1-2**

**Hebrews 10:19-25 (Read together as congregation)**

1. **Rejoicing**

**-time of expressing gratitude for His bountiful blessings and goodness**

**1 Corinthians 15:57**

**1 Thessalonians 5:18**

**-fellowship circle sharing thanksgiving and praise**