



**“Prayer Meetings and
the Power of the Gospel”
Acts 1:12-14**



Acts 1:12–14 (NKJV)

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey.

13 And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James.



Acts 1:12–14 (NKJV)

14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.





I. The History of Prayer Meetings in the Book of Acts





1. Prayer Meetings Can Encourage a Discouraged People





2. Prayer Meetings are the Appointed Place for the Manifestation of the Holy Spirit's Power





3. Prayer Meetings are a Means of Comfort to a Persecuted Church

Acts 4:31 (NKJV)

31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.



4. Prayer Meetings May Result in an Individual's Deliverance

Acts 12:1–5 (NKJV)

1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church.

2 Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword.



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Acts 12:1–5 (NKJV)

3 And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

4 So when he had arrested him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, intending to bring



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Acts 12:1–5 (NKJV)

him before the people after Passover.

5 Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.



5. Prayer Meetings Fuel Missions

Acts 13:1–4 (NKJV)

1 Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.



5. Prayer Meetings Fuel Missions

Acts 13:1–4 (NKJV)

2 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

3 Then, **having fasted and prayed**, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.

4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they



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6. A Prayer Meeting Opened the Gospel to People Like Us

Acts 16:11–15 (NKJV)

11 Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis,

12 and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days.



6. A Prayer Meeting Opened the Gospel to People Like Us

Acts 16:11–15 (NKJV)

13 And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there.

14 Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God.



6. A Prayer Meeting Opened the Gospel to People Like Us

Acts 16:11–15 (NKJV)

The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.

15 And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” So she persuaded us.



II. The Benefits of Prayer Meetings





1. The Value of Just Praying Together





2. The Value of Encouraging One Another's Devotional Life





3. The Prayer Meeting Has Unique Promises Attached to It





III. Hindrances to Prayer Meetings





1. There are some hindrances prior to the prayer meeting itself





2. There are some hindrances at the prayer meeting itself





3. Hindrances after the prayer meeting





IV. What Should be the Focus of Our Prayers





1. The Glory of God





2. God's Blessing Upon the Church





3. The Conversion of Those Who Are Not Yet Christ-followers





Isaiah 62:1–7 (NKJV)

1 For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace,
And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
Until her righteousness goes forth as
brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that
burns.

2 The Gentiles shall see your
righteousness, And all kings your glory. You
shall be called by a new name, Which the
mouth of the LORD will name.



Isaiah 62:1–7 (NKJV)

3 You shall also be a crown of glory In the hand of the LORD, And a royal diadem In the hand of your God.

4 You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; For the LORD delights in you, And your land shall be married.



Isaiah 62:1–7 (NKJV)

5 For as a young man marries a virgin, So shall your sons marry you; And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So shall your God rejoice over you.

6 I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent,

7 And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.