

Some Prayers of the New Testament Church

They called on God to vindicate his people in their cause. (Luke 18:7).

They called on God to save unbelievers. (Romans 10:1).

They called on God to direct the use of the sword. (Ephesians 6:17-18)

They called on God for boldness in proclamation. (Ephesians 6:18-19)

They called on God for signs and wonders. (Acts 4:30).

They called on God for the healing of wounded friends. (James 5:14-15).

They called on God for the healing of unbelievers. (Acts 28:8).

They called on God for the casting out of demons. (Mark 9:29).

They called on God for miraculous deliverances. (Acts 16:25-26).

They called on God for the raising of the dead. (Acts 9:40).

They called on God to supply his troops with necessities. (Matthew 6:11).

They called on God for strategic wisdom. (James 1:5).

They called on God to establish leadership in the outposts. (Acts 14:23).

They called on God to send out reinforcements. (Acts 13:2-3).

They called on God for the success of other missionaries. (Rom 15:30-31).

They called on God for unity and harmony in the ranks. (John 17:20-21).

They called on God for the encouragement of togetherness. (1 Thess 3:10).

They called on God for a mind of discernment. (Philippians 1:9-10).

They called on God for a knowledge of his will. (Colossians 1:9).

They called on God to know him better. (Colossians 1:10)

They called on God for power to comprehend the love of Christ. (Eph 3:14)

They called on God for a deeper sense of assured hope. (Ephesians 1:16,18).

They called on God for strength and endurance. (Colossians 1:11)

They called on God for deeper sense of his power within them. (Eph 1:16 ff).

They called on God that their faith not be destroyed. (Luke 22:32).

They called on God for greater faith. (Mark 9:24)

They called on God that they might not fall into temptation. (Matthew 6:13).

They called on God that he would complete their resolve. (2 Thess 1:11).

They called on God that they would do good works. (Colossians 1:10).

They called on God for forgiveness of their sins. (Matthew 6:12).

They called on God for protection from the evil one. (Matthew 6:13)

(source: John Piper)

ACTS

THE SPREADING FLAME



The book of Acts is the second part of Luke's two-volume work (originally Luke-Acts) in which the Scripture highlights all Jesus continued to do and teach after his ascension. Here we find the historical birth of the Holy Spirit empowered church and enduring teaching about the acting of God in history through his Spirit in his people.

What does Acts mean for us in 2024? First, this is our spiritual family. Second, this is the story into which we have been plunged, just a little farther down the stream of history. Third, we inherit the same mission as outlined in the book of Acts. Finally, this is the same God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) who is active in our lives and world today. Here we learn of him and are invited to walk faithfully as we practically learn of his Lordship and are filled with his Spirit.

Acts 1:12-26

(⁴ And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now...”)

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴ All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ¹⁶ “Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸ (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹ And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰ “For it is written in the Book of Psalms,

“‘May his camp become desolate,
and let there be no one to dwell in it’;

and

“‘Let another take his office.’

²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³ And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

(^{2:1} When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.)

Active Waiting

March 3, 2024 | Acts 1:12-26 | Pastor Roger Williams

Active waiting leads to passive empowerment of the Spirit.

(What does active waiting look like?)

Pray expectantly ⁽¹²⁻¹⁴⁾

Praying the *promises of God*

Praying the promises of God *together*

Praying the promises of God together with *devotion*

Respond to challenges ⁽¹⁵⁻¹⁹⁾

Respond to challenges *as normal*

Respond to challenges *as God's providence*

Take wise action ⁽²⁰⁻²⁶⁾

Let scripture *guide*

Let scripture guide *in a community of wisdom*

Let scripture guide in a community of wisdom *trusting God's providence*