



The American church is struggling. The culture has become hostile toward Christianity. Financially we are not as secure as we used to be. And many people view the church as irrelevant. Yet the answer is not some new program or improved way of doing ministry – we need revival! We desperately need to experience the power and presence of God. In the book of Acts we learn that the only way for this to happen is by depending upon God together in prayer. So, if you're ready for a fresh encounter with God, come learn to pray together and expect him to do great things.

Discussion Questions: (Leaders please review each question and pick those that will be most beneficial for your group.)

1. Do you agree or disagree with this statement: "It's not easy to step into a new role and take on new responsibilities." Explain.
2. Read Acts 20:17-38. Paul spent three years in Ephesus pouring his life into this young church. Yet when it was time for him to move on what did he do?
3. In order to be a reproducing church we must learn to entrust ourselves and others in God's family to the Lord in prayer. To do this, like Paul, we must believe three things: First we must believe in the powerful message of the gospel (vv.18-21). How did Paul's time in Ephesus show that he believed in the power of the gospel? Do you believe in the power of the gospel to transform lives? How does your life reflect this?
4. Next, we must believe in the mission of God (v.24). Looking at v.24 Paul considered his life worth nothing compared to completing the task of testifying to the gospel of grace. Is this how you view your life? Do you believe that God has called you to be a witness for the gospel wherever the Lord leads you? Explain.
5. Third, we must believe in the ministry of the Holy Spirit (vv.22-23 & 28). How did Paul demonstrate he believed in the power of the Holy Spirit in his own life? In the Christ-followers at Ephesus? Do you believe in the ministry of the Holy Spirit in your life and in others who are part of the body of Christ?
6. If you are a Christ-follower, you can entrust yourself and others in the family of God to the Lord in prayer because of the powerful message of the gospel, the mission of God, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Like Paul, whom do you need to commit to the Lord and to his word of grace (Acts 20:32)? Like the Ephesians, how will you step out in faith to advance the gospel? Believing in him, will you look to the Lord in prayer and entrust yourself and others to him today?