



G – Gather for Prayer

Father,

Thank you for your commission and your comforter—the Holy Spirit. Keep me from the temptation to do for you without first seeking you in prayer.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

R – Read the Text (Acts 1:6-14)

So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, 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. These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers."

O – Observe what God has said

What did Jesus call his disciples to do and what would make this difficult?

How do the disciples respond to the Ascension of Jesus? Why is prayer the first thing they pursue back in the upper room?

W – Work on Application

The commission given in this passage, still applies today. Jesus is still ascended and has yet to return. We are just as desperate and diverse a team as was assembled in the first century. And God is still a God who responds to prayer. Often, we are guilty of doing, solving, planning, fixing, or performing, without first going to the Lord in prayer. As disciples, we cannot do this! Daniel Henderson, wrote "prayerlessness is a declaration of our independence from God."

What can keep us from prayer? How can we as a family pray better together?

Family Discipleship Resource

December 10-16

(Acts 1:6-14)

Family Weekly Memory Verse: “Pray without ceasing”-1 Thess. 5:17