

# ***The Vineyard of God!***

*Church? Why Belong? Why Bother?*

*“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship,  
to the breaking of bread and the prayers...  
And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”  
Acts 2:42, 47b ESV*

**A Healthy Local Church is a \_\_\_\_\_ !**

## **I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Prayer**

**-God’s \_\_\_\_\_ to Pray**

*“if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”  
2 Chronicles 7:14 ESV*

**-Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ His Followers to Prayer**

*“Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him,  
“Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.””  
Luke 11:1 ESV*

**-Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer**

*“When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you,”  
John 17:1 ESV*

**-Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ was Prayer**

*“Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled.”  
Matthew 26:36–37 ESV*

**-Jesus Prayer in \_\_\_\_\_**

*“Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled.”  
Matthew 26:36–37 ESV*

**-The Local Church \_\_\_\_\_ with Prayer**

*“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. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.”  
Acts 1:13–14 ESV*

**-The Local Church \_\_\_\_\_ through Prayer**

*“And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.”  
Acts 4:31 ESV*

**-God’s \_\_\_\_\_ Pray!**

*“I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;”  
1 Timothy 2:8 ESV*

**Jesus’s True Church Prays Privately and Corporately!**

## II. \_\_\_\_\_ on Ministering with Spiritual Power

### - Jesus' Primary Focus is Developing \_\_\_\_\_

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit."*

*John 15:1-2 ESV*

**We Strive to be \_\_\_\_\_ not Happy.**

### - \_\_\_\_\_ is the Only Source for Fruitfulness

*"Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you."*

*John 15:3 ESV*

**We Strive to Insure that Each Person is \_\_\_\_\_.**

### - Fruitfulness is Produced by \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus

*"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."*

*John 15:4-5 ESV*

(Also: Hebrews 3:12-13)

**We Strive to \_\_\_\_\_ to Know Christ.**

### - There are Consequence for a \_\_\_\_\_

*"If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned."*

*John 15:6 ESV*

**We Strive to Hear Jesus Say, " \_\_\_\_\_, God and Faithful Servant!"**

### - Fruitfulness is Released by \_\_\_\_\_

*"If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."*

*John 15:7 ESV*

**We Strive for Pray to \_\_\_\_\_ Our Congregation**

### - Fruitfulness is the \_\_\_\_\_ We Can Give Jesus

*"By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."*

*John 15:8 ESV*

**We Strive to Exalt Jesus in \_\_\_\_\_.**

## A Healthy Local Church is a Praying Congregation

*"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."*

*Hebrews 4:16 ESV*