

Nine Marks of a Healthy Church  
Praying Together  
Acts 2:42-47

When we think about the purposes of the church, we tend to think in terms of the categories that apply to our personal involvement in the church. Most would agree that worship is a purpose of the church because that is the extent of their involvement. From there, the purposes are usually identified as fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and mission. Depending on where you are in your faith journey, some of these categories may be more relevant than others.

1. Prayer reminds us that we need God.
  
2. Prayer unleashes the power of God.
  
3. Prayer allows us to see the glory of God.

When we pray, God reveals Himself in our circumstances in a way that brings Him the most glory. The other side of that is that if we don't pray we miss out on that revelation and that glory. Moses prayed to see the glory of God and God allowed His goodness to pass before Moses. May we be a church that prays, individually and corporately because we realize how desperately we need God, how much we rely on His power, and how good it is to see the glory of God.

For further consideration

One of the most challenging statements about prayer I have ever read is this, "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." John O. says, "Breathing as a metaphor for Christian prayer, captures so much of what prayer should be. It reminds us that prayer is essential to our existence." If you decided to stop praying would anything actually change? Would you instead, begin to think about the rhythms of prayer that could change the way you know God and His power? Would you pray that we would be a church that prays together?