**The Power of Prayer**

*Series, In His Power*

Sermon Notes

May 8, 2021

Acts 4:23-31

23 On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. Sovereign Lord, they said, you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. 25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

Why do the nations rage

and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up

and the rulers band together

against the Lord

and against his anointed one.

27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. 28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen.

29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.

31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

**Theme & Goal:**

The power of prayer is spelled **P. R. A. Y.**

1. The power of prayer is spelled **P .** **R.** **A.** **Y**.

v 23 On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.

v. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God.

The power of prayer is not given to a person; but to the **P .**

Matthew 18:18-20

18 Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

19 Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

2. The power of prayer is spelled **P.** **R .** **A.** **Y**.

v. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,”

Recognize God is **S** !

Greek “despot” — Sovereign Lord

* properly, an authority figure ("master") who exercises complete jurisdiction (wields unrestricted power).
* implies someone exercising "unrestricted power and absolute domination, confessing no limitations or restraints”

v. 24 they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.”

* God is Sovereign over ***creation***.

V 25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together

against the Lord and against his anointed one.

* God is Sovereign over ***history***.

V. 27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed.

* God is Sovereign over your ***destiny***.

3. The power of prayer is spelled **P.** **R.** **A .** **Y**.

Activate **O** .

Acts 4:29-30

29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.

Acts 4:19

19 But Peter and John replied, Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges!

Sometimes God calms the ***storm***. Sometimes God lets the storm rage and calms His ***child***. — Unknown

Prayer doesn’t change God; it changes **Y** .

4. The power of prayer is spelled **P.** **R .** **A.** **Y** .

Yield yourself to the **P**  of God.

31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was ***shaken***. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Personal Application & Prayer