PART 2: WE VALUE PRAYERFULNESS

Sermon Notes

Text: Philippians 4:4-7

Intro:

We are helping each other follow Jesus. At home, in our city and around the world.

We Value Prayerfulness

We're not just a church that prays; we are a prayerful church.

Philippians 4:4-7

The context of this passage is conflict and disunity in the church.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

4 characteristics of a prayerful church:

1. A prayerful Church is a unified Church

2. A prayerful Church is guarded by peace

Philippians 4:7

3. A prayerful Church experiences the presence of God

v 9 - And the God of peace will be with you.

4. A prayerful Church experiences the power of God

"When I pray, coincidences happen. When I don't, they don't" ~William Temple

Conclusion:

Connect Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What's your worst/weirdest experience at a restaurant?

2. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

Study & Discussion:

1. Pastor Dave said, "We're not just a church that prays; we are a prayerful church." How would you define the difference between prayer and prayerfulness? Does it matter?

2. Read Philippians 4:1-9. Paul highlights a conflict in the church (v. 2-3), then provides advice for dealing with it (starting in v. 4). Is this the kind of advice people normally give to deal with conflict? Why should we rejoice when we're in conflict? Why give thanks? What do you normally do when you're in conflict (good or bad)?

3. Read Luke 18:1-8. Do you ever get frustrated or tired of prayer? Does it ever feel like prayer is a waste of time? You're not alone! What is the message of Jesus' parable here in Luke 18?

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Practice:

1. Spend some extra time with your group this week praying for APA. Pray for unity. Pray for peace. Pray that we would experience the presence and power of God!

2. Would you consider attending one of our weekly prayer meetings?

   Mondays at 6:30am (open to all)
   Mondays at 9am (men's prayer)
   Thursdays at 12pm (open to all)
   Fridays 9pm-12am (open to all - hosted by Shekinah Glory)
   Sundays at 9am (open to all - pre-service prayer)