

January 6, 2019

A PRAYER DRIVEN CHURCH

Matt 21:9-16

1. A prayer driven church is a church that is united.

Acts 1: 13-14, 2: 46-47, 4: 23-24

- When the church prays together, the church stays together. You show me a church that has unity and I will show you a church that is serious about prayer.
- What most people do not realize and what most churches do not realize is this common unity is not present if the church is not praying. A church that prays together is a church that stays together!
- It is very difficult to hate someone that prays for me and with me; it is almost impossible for me to be angry at someone else when I'm praying for them. It is almost impossible for me to be divisive in a church that I pray for and that I know is praying for me.
- The church of Jesus Christ was never created to operate without the power of the Holy Spirit. And you cannot have the power of the Holy Spirit without having unity in the spirit. And you cannot have unity in the spirit without having prayer in the spirit. That's why we are a prayer driven church.

2. A prayer driven church is a church with boldness.

Acts 4:13, Acts 4:29

- They knew they had been with Jesus because of their boldness. Jesus was bold! Jesus stood up in the face of a religious system and a messed-up world and declared the truth, regardless of what it cost him. They knew Peter and John had been with Jesus because they were bold about the truth, the gospel, and righteousness. We are to be bold. People will know that you are He is when they see his boldness in you. We need to be bold believers, who are unashamedly unapologetically bold for Jesus Christ.
- The church has lost its boldness as a whole. We're so busy trying to be like the world, we're so busy trying not to offend people, we're so busy trying to pack buildings out that we have sacrificed our boldness at the altar of fear and popularity.
- Eph 6:19-20 The apostle Paul writes the church at Ephesus and tells them I want you to pray for me. He asked them to pray that God would give him the utterance to preach the gospel and to preach it **boldly**.

3. A prayer driven church is a church with great influence.

Acts 2:46-47, 4:33-35, 5:12-14

- Beloved it is time for the church of Jesus Christ, the church that is full of the Holy Spirit, his church, to have great influence in the eyes of the world. I'm talking about having the influence in our schools and in our cities so that when someone is experiencing problems the lost people tell them go see the church.

- The 1st church had so much influence in the eyes of the world that those who were not serious about living for the Lord would not dare join them. People who would looking for redemption and salvation, and wanted to give their lives to Jesus, when they walked in the church, the power of God would hit them and they would repent of their sins get saved and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

- This influence comes through prayer and much prayer in the realm of the spirit. This type of influence can only be given by heaven. Church it is time for us to expand our horizons and pray and seek God and let him grant us greater influence in this region and in this nation and all around the world.