

**LIVING STONES**  
**Acts 1.12 – 26**  
**September 22, 2013**

**PRAYER**

**“Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which was near Jerusalem, a Sabbath’s day journey away. And when they had entered, they went 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....”**

**The Lord instructs us to pray. Matthew 26.41 “Keep alert and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is indeed willing but the flesh is weak”**

**Prayer refines our relationship with God. Zach 13.9 “I will bring that group through the fire and make them pure, just as gold and silver are refined and purified by fire. They will call on my name and I will answer them. I will say ‘these are my people’ and they will say ‘The Lord is our God”**

**Jesus’ doctrine of pray is set out principally in His parables.**

- 1. Generosity – Lk 11.5-8 Parable of three loaves at midnight; Mt 7.7-11 “Ask and it will be given...”**
- 2. Tenacity and persistence Lk 18.1-6 Parable of the unjust judge**
- 3. Humility Lk 18.10-14 Parable of the tax collector and Pharisee**
- 4. Charity Lk 8.21-35 Parable of the unjust servant**
- 5. Simplicity Mt 6-5; Mk 12.38-40; Lk 20.47**
- 6. Intensity Mk 13.33; 14.38**
- 7. Unity Mt 18.19-20**
- 8. Surrender to God’s will Mk 9.23**

**Objectives of prayer – the Holy Spirit will prompt us**

**Method of prayer – Offer prayers to Christ (Mt 8.2; 9.18) and through Him we have access to the Father (Jn 13.14)**

**Lord’s practice of prayer – In secret (Lk 5.15;6.12); times of Spiritual conflict (Jn 7.20-28); on the cross (Mt 27.46)**

**His prayer content – thanksgiving (Lk 10.21); sought guidance (Lk 6.12); intercession (Jn17.6-19); communion with the Father (Lk 9.28); unity of the church (Jn 17)**

**The practice of prayer: ACTS - Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication**

**Pray and Plan = Pray, Discover, Obey**