

**The Church on the Move: a Praying Community (Acts 4:23-31)**

**Introduction**

- List some reasons why Christians find prayer meetings difficult.
- Why should we be worried if prayer is not the priority of a church?
- What has happened so far in Acts 3 – 4?

**i They prayed together because they were united as one people (v23-24a)**

- What significant words does Luke use in v23a?
- How did those early Christians see themselves?
- What two things did they do as a result in v23b-24a?
- What, then, is going to motivate us to pray together as a church?
- What is one of the tragic things about Christianity in the West today?
- What do we therefore need?

**ii They prayed together because they were united by faith in God (v24b-28)**

- In v24b, the Christians address God with the word “Δεσποτα” (“Despota”). What does this Greek word mean?
- So what truth about God are they focusing on?
- What do they praise God for in the rest of v24b?
- What truth about God does this point to?

- In v25-28, the Christians quote Psalm 2. What does Psalm 2 foretell?
- How has the psalm been fulfilled?
- But what did the evil schemes of mankind end up accomplishing?
- So what truth about God are the Christians pointing to?
- What unites them, then?
- What sorts of things can God do in answer to prayer?
- What should realising this do to us?

### **iii They prayed together because they were united around one cause (v29-30)**

- What do the early Christians not pray for?
- What do they pray for?
- Why do they pray like this?
- What, then, unites them?
- How is this going to motivate you to come to the prayer meeting?

### **Conclusion**

- What should you do if you do not typically come to the prayer meeting?