



# A PRAYERFUL CHURCH

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‘God shapes the world by prayer’  
EM Bounds

# A prayerful Church

*If there is not a renewal of prayer and of prayerful communities in this country, forget a renewal of the gospel.*

*It isn't going to happen.*

*All of Christian history says renewal of the church and of society begins with a renewal of prayer and community life in prayer'.*

Archbishop Justin Welby August 2013

# A prayerful Church

- Prayer is all about talking.. Listening.. Waiting... looking. asking
- Prayer is about praise, thanksgiving, saying sorry, asking for ourselves and for others
- We can pray using words – or no words; we can cry and sigh, we can stand, walk, run, sit, kneel...

*‘Prayer is me being me in the presence of God being God’* NT Wright..

# Prayer as the key to God's heart

John 15:4

Soak in his friendship

‘Remain in me’ NIV

‘Make your home in me’ TM

*‘Prayer is nothing else than a sense of God’s presence’ Brother Lawrence*

# Prayer as the key to God's heart

John 15:15

Surrender to his love

‘ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master business. Instead I have called you friends’

*‘Lord, come to me, my door is open’* Michel Quoist

# Prayer as the key to God's heart

John 16:16

Serve with joy

'I have chosen you to go and bear fruit. Fruit that will last'

*'If you pray without serving, your prayers will be in vain. If you serve without praying, your service will be in vain. Go, pray and serve the power of God's Spirit'* Mother Teresa of Calcutta

# Prayer as the key to unlocking God's purposes

Acts 4: 13, 24-31

The People

*'To clasp the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world' Karl Barth*

# Prayer is the key to unlocking God's purposes

Acts 4

Their Praying

*'In prayer you are opening yourself to the purpose and power of God and He is able to do things through you that He could not do otherwise'*

E Stanley Jones

# A prayerful Church

Is Expectant

Is Willing to go deeper with God

*'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen'*

Eph 3:20-21