



## ~ Persistence in Prayer – Part 2 ~

***“Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.” – Acts 4:29-31***

As we have already learned, following Christ’s example of persistence in prayer always brings deliverance and victory. When you see a group of people who are persistent in prayer together, powerful things happen. Something powerful always happens when God’s people come together united with a common goal to pray and lay hold of Christ.

In Acts 1, we read that the believers came together to pray and fellowship with one another in Jerusalem until the promise of the Holy Spirit came. In Acts 2, we read that “when the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.” Powerful things happen when God’s people come TOGETHER to pray.

*Matthew 18:19-20 says “Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”* Again, there is power when God’s people pray together.

We are also told in 2 Chronicles 7:14 that if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” We are told that if we seek the Lord and surrender ourselves to Him healing will happen.

The Holy Spirit will come to those who ask and history has shown that when God’s people come together, those that have come together receive His Gift. The Israelites experienced it during Ezra and Nehemiah’s time. Revival was felt by those who came together to seek the Lord. The early Christians that were gathered together seeking the Lord received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

In the parable of the 10 virgins, they all slept while waiting for the groom. However, it was the 5 virgins that had the extra oil that were able to make it till the groom finally arrived. That oil represents the Holy Spirit. All 10 virgins had oil, but only the 5 virgins had extra oil. Unless we receive the extra dose of the Holy Spirit, we cannot survive until Jesus comes. We receive the Holy Spirit when we come together and seek God for it just like the Israelites and early

Christians did. It was only those who were gathered together that received the Spirit at Pentecost.

Don't let your rugged individualism keep you from receiving the gift of the Spirit. We need to come together with our sorrows and our joys to encourage and seek the Lord together. When there is unity of mind and spirit as in the days of the Israelites and the days of the early Christian church, we will receive the Promise of deliverance God has promised to those who ask. We cannot achieve this as a people by ourselves alone. We MUST come together.

Prayerfully consider joining a prayer group in your church or ask the Lord to bring someone in your life who you can partner with in prayer. Powerful things are waiting to happen in your life and it's not going to happen sitting out on your own. God has a plan and will provide for your journey. But, the journey is always better with others by your side to share it all with.

**Kimberly Mills**

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