

PRIORITIES OF A SPIRIT LEAD CHURCH

“..... BUT WE WILL GIVE OURSELVES CONTINUALLY TO PRAYER AND TO THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD.” ACTS 6:4

THE EARLY CHURCH LEARNED QUICKLY THAT THEIR PRAYER HAD TO BE CONTINUOUS BECAUSE SPIRITUAL WARFARE IS CONTINUOUS. IT BECAME THEIR FIRST PRIORITY BECAUSE SATAN SOUGHT THEIR DEFEAT AS HIS FIRST PRIORITY. THUS, THEIR EARLIEST RECORDED ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION AFTER PENTECOST PLACES THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER (WITH THE WORD) AS HIGHEST IN IMPORTANCE. AS THE CHURCH GREW, CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRED MORE OF THE APOSTLES TIME. BUT REALIZING THEY NEEDED MORE PRAYER, RATHER THAN INCREASED ACTIVITY, THE APOSTLES CHOSE SEVEN MEN TO SERVE AS DEACONS TO CARE FOR THE CHURCH. THIS FREED THEM TO FOCUS ON PRAYER AND THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD. OF THE TWO, PRAYER, RIGHTFULLY, IS LISTED FIRST. FAITHFULNESS TO PRAYER RECURS THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE. PAUL WOULD LATER TELL THE CHURCH AT ROME TO “BE KINDLY AFFECTIONATE TO ONE ANOTHER CONTINUING STEADFASTLY IN PRAYER” ROM 12:10, 12; PROV 3:5,6; EZEK 22:30