

2018 New Zealand Pacific Union Ministers' Meeting
Praying for the Holy Spirit
Dr Ron E M Clouzet, NSD Ministerial Secretary

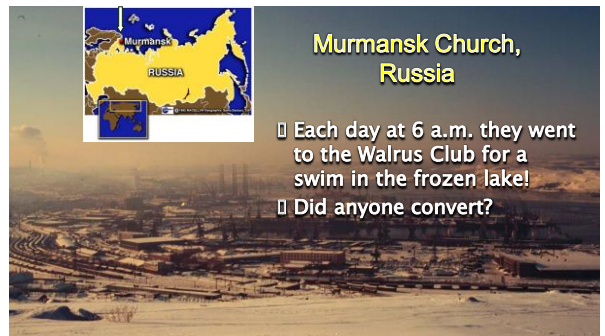


**Murmansk Church,
Russia**



**Murmansk Church,
Russia**

- ▣ The church had 22 members; then down to eight
- ▣ They realized they needed help. They prayed for the Holy Spirit and planned to win souls



**Murmansk Church,
Russia**

- ▣ Each day at 6 a.m. they went to the Walrus Club for a swim in the frozen lake!
- ▣ Did anyone convert?



**Murmansk Church,
Russia**

- ▣ 80 were baptized the first year! Then, the church started six more church plants!

"I am the Lord your God,...
Open your mouth wide,
and I will fill it."
Ps 81:10



Corporate vs. Private Prayer



"The promise [of the Holy Spirit] is made on *condition* that the *united prayers* of the church are offered, and in answer to these prayers there may be expected *a power greater than that which comes in answer to private prayer.*

Corporate vs. Private Prayer



"The power given will be proportionate to the unity of the members and their love for God and for one another."

Letter 32, 1903, p. 5.

(To Brother and Sister Farnsworth, January 28, 1903.) [9MR 303]. Emphasis added

There Is Power in Corporate Prayer

- ▶ Hao Ya Jie is the pastor of the Beiguan Church in Shenyang. Today: 7,000 members!



There Is Power in Spirit Prayer

- ▶ She helped Zu Xiu Hua (left) plant 380 churches all over northeast China!
- ▶ Hao oversees over 20,000 members and 200 pastors
- ▶ The secret? **"We meet each morning from 4:30 to 6:00 a.m. to pray."** 150 people participate.



Two Weaknesses with Prayer:

- ▶ We don't pray enough, especially, together
- ▶ When we pray, we hardly pray in faith

The Widow

"... 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.' Then the Lord said, 'Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?'"



The Widow

"I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

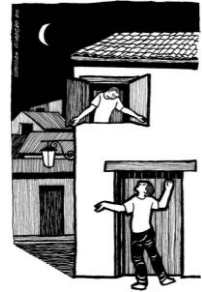
► Luke 18:4-8



The Neighbor

"Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him';...So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you...How much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

► Luke 11:5, 6, 9, 13



"The Holy Spirit will come to all who are begging for the bread of life to give to their neighbors."

Testimonies, vol.6, 90



Evan Roberts, Welsh Revival

"I felt ablaze with a desire to go through the length and breadth of Wales to tell of the Savior; and had it been possible, I was willing to pay God for doing so."

► Brian H. Edwards,
Revival! A People Saturated with God,
152



How we should really pray

"Shall not our half-hearted supplications be turned into petitions of intense desire for this great blessing [of the Holy Spirit]?"



The Bible Echo,
August 5,
1901, par. 7

How we should really pray

"We do not ask for enough of the good things God has promised. If we would reach up higher and expect more, our petitions would reveal...the full expectation of being heard and answered."



The Bible Echo,
August 5,
1901, par. 7

How we should really pray



The Bible Echo,
August 5,
1901, par. 7

"The Lord is not glorified by the tame supplications which show that nothing is expected. He desires every one who believes to approach the throne of grace with earnestness and assurance.

How we should really pray



The Bible Echo,
August 5,
1901, par. 7

"If we realized the greatness of the gift, if we desired the attainment of the blessing, our petitions would ascend with earnestness, importunity, urgency.

How we should really pray



The Bible Echo,
August 5,
1901, par. 7

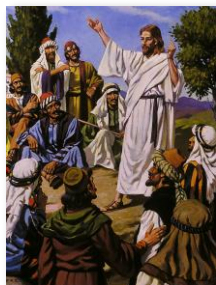
"It would be as if we were at the gate of heaven, soliciting entrance. We should ask with an earnestness that will not be denied..."

Do you pray so as
not to be denied?



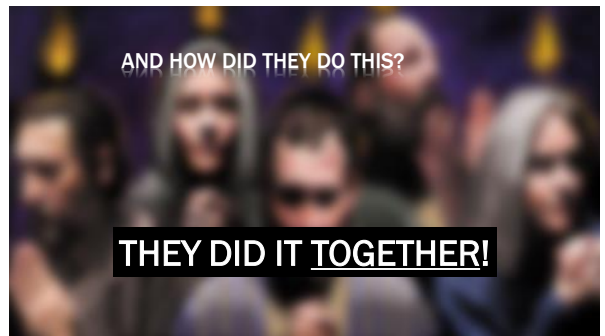
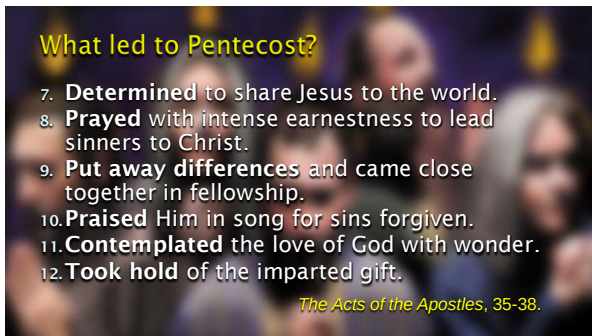
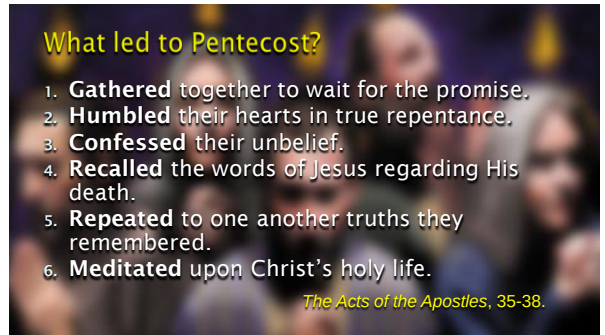
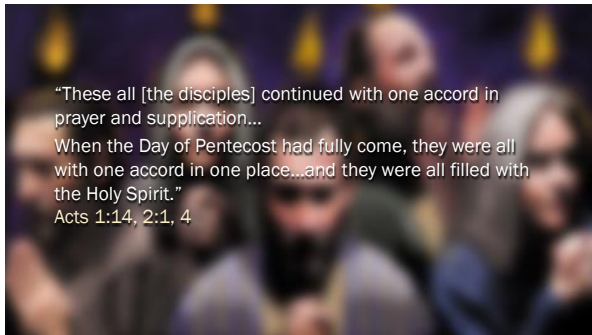
"...He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised,...[and] you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses...even to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:4, 8



How did the disciples pray
while in the Upper Room?





ASAP Ministries

- ▶ Lay pastor Hanh's house-church: fasted and prayed for pagan village 240 km away. Some had unconverted relatives there.
- ▶ Yen, with terminal cancer, came to town for treatments. She gave her life to Jesus, but was sent home to die.



ASAP Ministries

- ▶ The Church prayed for a miracle, claiming Psalm 30: "If you let her die, who will praise Your name in this village?"
- ▶ When they learned she was unconscious, dying, Hanh called Yen's sister-in-law.



ASAP Ministries

- ▶ "Please get Yen's Bible, open it to Ps 30, kneel next to her, and read the words, putting Yen's name in the verses."
- ▶ Minutes after he called her, Yen stopped breathing, and she died.
- ▶ Her sister-in-law began to prepare her for burial.



ASAP Ministries

- ▶ Then, she remembered Hanh's request and started reading Ps 30.
- ▶ Yen came back to life, completely healed!
- ▶ Over the next few weeks, 50 more people were converted and joined the church!



Our Greatest Need

"A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work..."



Our Greatest Need

"Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children."



Our Greatest Need

"But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing.



Our Greatest Need

"A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer."
Selected Messages, vol.1, 121.



What are the conditions for revival?

- ▶ Confession
- ▶ Humiliation (Surrender)
- ▶ Repentance
- ▶ Earnest Prayer



A Vision for the 1901 GC Session



Roseville, California

- ▶ Typical Laodicean Adventist church
- ▶ 200 members, 100 in attendance
- ▶ Mostly older, not very friendly
- ▶ Focused on:
 - Bible study
 - Prayer
 - Witnessing
- ▶ People began to hunger for God's Word



Roseville, California

- ▶ Prayer became key: mornings, meetings, fasting and prayer weekends:
 - 40 hrs. long
 - 14-17 sessions of 90-min. each
 - Prayer cards
 - Special prayer
 - Major victories!
- ▶ Results?



Roseville, California

- ▶ Young adults made radical changes.
- ▶ Membership went from 211 to 630.
- ▶ Almost 200 baptized (with no church school).
- ▶ Planted a church (today is 750 members).
- ▶ Small groups became mission-minded.
- ▶ Tithe: from \$146,000 to \$640,000/year.



Roseville, California

- ▶ Church budget: from \$32,000 to \$249,000.
- ▶ Evangelism budget: from \$800 to \$42,000.
- ▶ 78% of members involved in ministry!



"This is the word of the Lord,...
Not by might nor by power, but
by My Spirit, says the Lord of
hosts."

Zech 4:6