

PRAYER DRIVEN CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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WHAT IF . . .

- . . . the lights (power) goes out?
- . . . the furnace goes out in the winter?
- . . . the air conditioner goes out in the summer?
- . . . the sound system isn't working?
- . . . the pews are wet or turned over?
- . . . the preacher doesn't show up to preach?
- . . . the Lord's Supper isn't served?
- . . . the elders aren't shepherding?

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN? Someone, many would say something.

WHAT IF THE ELDERS (LEADERS) DIDN'T . . .

- ... pray more than 5-minutes in their meetings (or last meeting)?
- ... pray for by name the members of the flock in spiritual trouble?
- ... have a consistent daily prayer life?

HOW WOULD THE MEMBERS KNOW ABOUT THE PRAYER LIFE OF LEADERS?

- It would show up in their lack of emphasis on congregational praying.
- It would show up in their attitudes toward members (cf. John 13:32-36).
- It would show up in their emphasis on various ministries.
- It will show up in their home, job, and community.

LEADERS IN THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH CONFESSED THEIR COMMITMENT TO PRAYER:

*“But we will give ourselves continually to PRAYER, and the ministry of the WORD”
(Acts 6:4).*

- They followed the example of Jesus.

THE CHURCH AND CHURCH LEADERS ARE DRIVEN BY NUMEROUS THINGS TODAY:

- Today many congregations are ...
- ... program driven
- ... entertainment driven

... personality driven

... facility driven

... numbers driven

... money driven

... attendance driven

... fellowship driven

... time driven

... tradition driven

... media driven

... sermon driven

WHAT IS THE MOST NEGLECTED FACTOR IN MANY CONGREGATIONS TODAY?

Today the most neglected factor . . .

... is not great preaching

... is not positive organization

... is not well stocked teachers' work rooms

... is not giving

... is not Bible reading

... is not attendance

... is not fellowship

... is not visitation

... is not defending the truth

... is not talent or skill

While these may be problem areas in some churches; the most neglected factor in many congregations, which is a key to solving all these issues, is PRAYER!

The average congregation spends only about 15 to 20 minutes in all their combined services each week in prayer.

We must commit to restoring the church to her prayer power. It begins with me.

Check out my new book: *Prayers to the Father Never go Unanswered*