

Living on Purpose Part 2 - "With One Accord" (1-18-26)

Main Text: Acts chapter 1

Introduction: Last Sunday we focused on Staying and Abiding in Prayer - "Don't just do something, sit there"

Acts 1:4 (ESV)

And while staying **with them** (Jesus) ordered them **not to depart** from Jerusalem, but to **wait for** the promise of the Father . . .

Note: Week 1 - "wait for" / Week 2 - "with them" and "not to depart"

- **Last Week:** "wait for" - Tarry - **Waiting with a purpose**
- **Today:** "with them" - **assembled together with them** "not to depart" - **divide/separate and leave**

Application: Jesus' command to wait and pray wasn't given to isolated people. They were called to do this together. **Be with the people of God**, in order to be empowered as His witnesses.

Today's Theme: With One Accord

Acts 1:14a (ESV)

All these **with one accord** were devoting themselves to **prayer**

Acts 1:14a (KJV)

These all **continued** with **one accord** in **prayer** and **supplication** . . .

"Continued"

- 1) to adhere to one, to be devoted or constant to one
- 2) to be steadfastly attentive unto, to give unremitting care to a thing
- 3) to continue all the time in a place
- 4) to persevere and not to faint

2 primary uses in NT Scripture: in prayer and in Christ-centered devoted relationship

- In Prayer

Colossians 4:2 (ESV)

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Romans 12:12 (ESV)

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be **constant** in prayer.

- In Relationship

Acts 2:42 (NKJV)

And they **continued** steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 2:46 (NKJV)

So **continuing** daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart

“With one accord” (G3661) - one and the same temperament/mind (most literal), With one mind, with unanimous consent, in one accord, all together

Romans 15:1-7 (ESV)

[1] We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. [2] Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. [3] For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me.” [4] For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. [5] May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, [6] that **together** you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. [7] Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Note: This was written for our instruction, to give us hope for harmony!

This requires endurance and encouragement (vs. 4 and 5)

Acts 4:23-31 - After Peter & John were held overnight and threatened to stop sharing Jesus. They came together in one accord and prayed for boldness. Holy Spirit fell once again.

3 points of application for this sort of **“With One Accord”** unity . . .

Tending our Church Relationships

Consider the followers of Jesus - How are Christ-centered relationships Built, Maintained, and Repaired?

1) Built - Their relationships were based on their shared following of Jesus

Ephesians 2:19-22 (ESV)

[19] So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, [20] built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, [21] in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. [22] In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

2) Maintained - Ongoing time together in the Lord’s presence

Ephesians 4:1-3 (ESV)

[1] I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, [2] with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, [3] eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:15-16 (ESV)

[15] Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, [16] from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

3) Repaired - When hurt happens (disappointment, sin, neglect, etc.) - be intentional to deal with it!

Ephesians 4:32 (ESV) - “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

Example: Share my project in late 2021 - reviewing each person/family and considering if there was anything to forgive or repent of. A lot of it was internal and prayer with the Lord. It also became clear some conversations were needed.

Conclusion: Be patient in prayer, continuing in one accord together!