

Agape Life



Housekeeping

Beginning Sunday, September 8,

we will begin working through a Lesson Series entitled

Prayer that Moves Heaven:

Power with Purpose.



If you would like a print copy of the study guide you can order it by scanning the QR code. The cost is \$6.00.



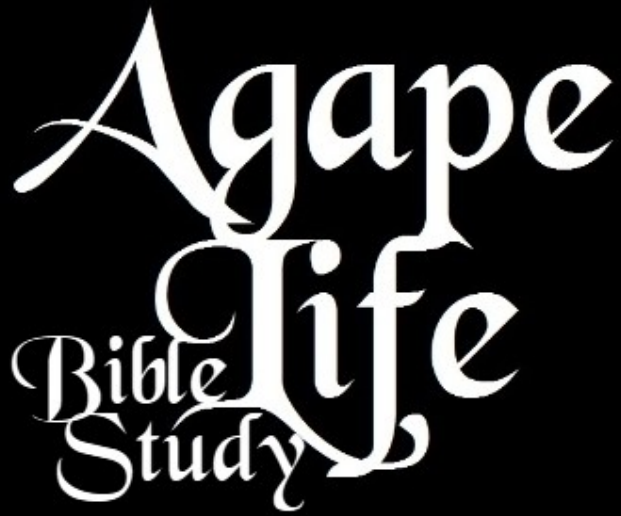
Study Guide QR Code

The Digital Study Guide is on that same page at a cost of \$3.50. You are not obligated to purchase study materials. I provide a one-page outline of the material from the study guide for you to use. You can also read and study via Kindle at the cost of \$4.00.



Kindle QR Code





connect360
Prayer That
Moves Heaven
POWER WITH PURPOSE

Lesson 3

Prayerful Devotion & Diligence

Acts 2:42-47

September 22, 2024



Bible Study Prayer

**Father, as we turn to the Bible,
What we know not - teach us,
What we have not - give us,
What we are not - make us,
For your Son's sake,
Amen.**



Prayerful Devotion & Diligence - Acts 2:42-47

Soldiers, when committed to a task, can't compromise. It's unrelenting devotion to the standards of duty and courage, absolute loyalty to others, not letting the task go until it's been done.

John Keegan – British Military Historian



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Prayerful Devotion & Diligence - Acts 2:42-47

The Practices of the Early Church Acts 2:42-47



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



What are the characteristics of the Early Church as seen in Acts 2:42-47?



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Focus on Acts 2:42

**“And they devoted themselves
to the apostles’ teaching
and the fellowship,
to the breaking of bread
and the prayers.”**



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Prayerful Devotion & Diligence - Acts 2:42-47

Focus on Acts 2:42

**“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”
(See also Acts 1:14)**

**προσκαρτερέω – proskartereó - (pros-kar-ter-eh'-o)
attended constantly, persisted, persevered in,
continued steadfastly in**

YOU'RE ALL IN



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Prayerful Devotion & Diligence - Acts 2:42-47

Focus on Acts 2:42

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

ταῖς προσευχαῖς
tais proseuchais
the prayers



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Prayerful Devotion & Diligence - Acts 2:42-47

Focus on Acts 2:42

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

ταῖς προσευχαῖς - tais proseuchais - the prayers

Jewish Practice - 3 Daily Prayer Times
Morning (Shacharit), Afternoon (Mincha),
and Evening (Ma’ariv)



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Prayerful Devotion & Diligence - Acts 2:42-47

Focus on Daily Devotion

After worshiping him, they returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they were continually in the temple praising God. - Luke 24:52-53

They were all continually united in prayer, along with the women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. - Acts 1:14

Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, - Acts 2:46a



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Prayerful Devotion & Diligence - Acts 2:42-47

Focus on Daily Devotion

Daily Devoted Diligence in Prayer

Set Time - Set Place - Set Format

The Examen



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Prayerful Devotion & Diligence - Acts 2:42-47

The Examen

St. Ignatius Loyola made the Examen one of the few rules for the Jesuits. He required them to work through The Examen twice daily – at noon and at the end of the day.

He gave them five steps for the practice.

1. Become aware of God's presence.

2. Review the day with gratitude.

3. Pay attention to your emotions.

4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.

5. Look toward tomorrow.



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)





A Closing Thought



The War Is On!

**If you are devoted to the cause of Christ;
If you are a Soldier of the Cross;
If you want to get into the battle and
not stick your head in the sand
as if nothing is wrong;**

YOU MUST PRAY!

YOU MUST PRAY DAILY!

YOU MUST PRAY DILIGENTLY!

**YOU MUST PRAY AS IF YOUR LIFE AND THE LIVES OF ALL
YOU LOVE DEPEND ON IT . . .
. . . because they do.**



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)





Closing Prayer



Guided Prayer

The Examen

- 1. Become aware of God's presence.**
- 2. Review the day with gratitude.**
- 3. Pay attention to your emotions.**
- 4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.**
- 5. Look toward tomorrow.**



Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Next Week in

Agape
Bible Study Life

5th Sunday
Social



September 29, 2024

