



PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17th, 7PM

Join us on our [Facebook Page](#) at 7:00pm for a Live Video. If you do not have Facebook, you can use this guide to pray with us on your own wherever you are and a recording of the service will be shared later.

• INTRO

Welcome to another prayer service! There is no place we would rather be than dwelling in the Love of God. Tonight we're focusing our prayer on proclaiming the Gospel of Christ in this day and hour, both through words and actions: as people of the Kingdom, we are called to lives of justice, mercy, and kindness. These things demonstrate the reality of the Gospel. We are also called to testify to Christ with our words. Good works and the Good Word. These are both part of the Gospel; we cannot neglect one or the other—in this present moment of pandemic, division, and injustice, this is more important than ever for the witness of the church. We'll use another guided prayer from the Lectio365 app by 24-7 Prayer International. Today's devotional explores the practice of justice in the early church of Acts (*June 16th, 2020: "Radical Sharing, Acts 4:32-37" by Phil Togwell <https://www.24-7prayer.com/>*). Let's begin with a song of worship to center our hearts on the Lord.

• SONG

“Set a Fire” Click Here - <https://youtu.be/G2XtRuPfaAU>

VERSE

No place I would rather be
No place I would rather be
No place I would rather be
Than here in Your love
Here in Your love

That I can't contain and I can't control
I want more of You God
I want more of You God

BRIDGE

I want more, I want more
I want more, I want more
I want more, I want more
Won't you pour it out

CHORUS

Set a fire down in my soul

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• PAUSE

As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still; to breathe slowly; to re-center my scattered senses upon the presence of God.

Pause and Pray

Father God, open my eyes, stir my heart and teach me how “To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with you today,” (Micah 6:8).

- **REJOICE**

I rejoice in God's name today, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of psalm 9...

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all the marvelous things you have done. I will be filled with joy because of you. I will sing praises to your name, O Most High. (Psalm 9:1-2)

Worship the Name of the Lord in your own way.

- **SONG**

“You Deserve it All” Click Here - <https://youtu.be/vT-BEvz1Fm0>

VERSE 1

Found in Your name the power to save
With only a whisper mountains shake
Jesus our hope and strength
You made a way unlocked these chains
Here in Your presence strongholds break
Freed by the love You gave

Broken and shamed for all to see
The Father laid down His Son
From darkness to light
Death lost to life
Heaven and earth will join and sing
Jesus has overcome

CHORUS

We give You the highest praise
You deserve it all You deserve it all

BRIDGE

With every breath that's in my lungs
My heart cries out to You belongs
The glory
Through every loss or victory
My soul will rise to only bring
You glory

VERSE 2

There on a tree merciful King

Bobby Strand | Joe Volk | Josh Baldwin | Kalley Heiligenthal | Tony Brown © 2016 Bethel Worship Publishing CCLI License # 870332

- **REFLECT**

After the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, the rapidly growing community of new believers met every day, both in the temple courts and in their homes, where they prayed and worshipped together, ate meals and studied together. Notice that this was a community marked by deep friendship and an economic model that redistributed wealth.

Acts 4:32-37 “All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means 'son of

encouragement'), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet."

This short passage is a bit like a sandwich...First, Luke says that the believers chose to share everything they had. And then he explains that the believers often sold land or houses and shared the proceeds with those in need. And sandwiched in between, Luke says that the apostles testified about Jesus' resurrection.

Perhaps Luke is making a point? Speaking of Jesus - testifying about His death and resurrection - is the center, the 'meat' of the message. But maybe the 'bread and butter' is more to do with how I live - radical sharing of possessions and sacrificial generosity towards those in need.

Pause

- **ASK**

Jesus taught His disciples to ask the Father to 'give us today our daily bread'. It's OK to ask for what we really require, and so I ask You now, Lord, for the physical, emotional and practical things I need today.

Pause and pray

God's politics are neither capitalist nor communist. The believers owned private property, but they gave it away radically.

I ask You, God, to help me let go of my most precious possessions. Show me if there's anything I own that is, in fact, owning me. It might be something that could bless someone else more than it blesses me.

- **YIELD**

As I return to the passage, I open my ears to hear Your Word, and my heart to yield to Your will once again.

Acts 4:32-37 "All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means 'son of encouragement'), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet."

Joseph was such an encouragement to others that the disciples actually renamed him 'son of encouragement', or Barnabas. Encouragement wasn't just something Joseph dispensed from time to time; it was his primary distinguishing characteristic. Who do I know that might need my encouragement today? What could I give, do or say that would build them up?

Pause and pray

Father God, I yield to Your encouragement. Give me the courage to live sacrificially with everything I have: my words, my possessions and my time. I would love to be known as someone who is always encouraging to everyone I meet. Father, I am especially grateful for your encouragement. You tell me to have courage, to be bold, and you promise to be with me, always. (Joshua 1:9)

- **SONG**

"Raise a Hallelujah" Click Here - <https://youtu.be/G2XtRuPfaAU>

VERSE 1

I raise a hallelujah in the presence of my enemies
I raise a hallelujah louder than the unbelief
I raise a hallelujah my weapon is a melody
I raise a hallelujah Heaven comes to fight for me

I raise a hallelujah I will watch the darkness flee
I raise a hallelujah in the middle of the mystery
I raise a hallelujah fear you lost your hold on me

CHORUS

I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated the King is alive

BRIDGE

Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder in the presence of my enemies
Sing a little louder louder than the unbelief
Sing a little louder my weapon is a melody
Sing a little louder Heaven comes to fight for me

VERSE 2

I raise a hallelujah with everything inside of me

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- **CLOSING PRAYER**

***Father, help me to live this day to the full, being true to You, in every way.
Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet.
Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say. Amen.***