

DEVOTED

1. Devoted to Prayer

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

Read Acts 2.41-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Getting Started with Prayer

- How do you find prayer? It is something that's easy for you?
- What kinds of things do you find yourself praying about?

Being an outward focused community:

Chloe talked about how the early church was 'outward focused' right from the beginning, existing for the sake of those not part of the community as much as for those who were part of this early church.

- How do you think at metro we are being outward focussed in what we do?
- As a church, how could we be better at this?
- What could we do as a hub to be outward focussed?

Praying for others:

- As part of being 'outward focused', why do you think that we should be praying for other people?
- We'd like to be a community 'devoted to prayer' for others – what are the challenges that we face?
- Chloe talked about intercession, praying for others, being part of our role as Christians, is this something you have considered before? How does it make you feel?

Adopting a rhythm:

It can be hard to remember to pray and we can't rely on feeling like it. The early church adopted rhythms of prayer to help them stay devoted to it.

- What are ways of praying/ rhythms of prayer that have worked for you? Do you have any ideas of other rhythms of prayer that might work well?

- What rhythm are you going to put into place this week to help you pray for others?

Where to go next:

Should you want to explore the topic of prayer further – now or in weeks to come – there are some great resources out there...

- Philip has developed some resources and questions around the Lord's Prayer: <https://woodlandsmetro.church/sites/default/files/message-discussion-notes/Understanding%20Prayer.pdf>
- The Prayer Course free short videos by Pete Greig are also a great resource. The one on 'Intercession' would be the most relevant to go with Chloe's talk. <https://www.prayercourse.org/> but the whole series is great for you/your hub if you want extra wisdom on prayer – and it comes with session notes too.

Big idea:

'Let's be a community devoted to praying for others, knowing our role as intercessors, our resource in the Holy Spirit and adopting a rhythm of prayer to see those around us come to know Jesus.'