

corporate prayer

RMMN RESOURCE

PASTOR NICK SEDERS



CORPORATE PRAYER

BEFORE THE SPIRIT WAS Poured OUT ON PENTECOST, THE DISCIPLES WERE UNITED IN PRAYER (ACTS 1:14). BEFORE THE CHURCH SPOKE THE WORD OF GOD BOLDLY UNDER THREAT OF PUNISHMENT, THEY RAISED THEIR VOICES TOGETHER TO GOD (ACTS 4:24-31). BEFORE AN ANGEL LED PETER OUT OF PRISON, THE CHURCH WAS PRAYING FERVENTLY TO GOD FOR HIM (12:5-12).

I WANT TO SEE THAT SAME UNITY, BOLDNESS, AND WONDER-WORKING POWER IN THE CONGREGATION THAT I GET TO LEAD; SO MY FIRST INCLINATION IS TO DREAM AND PLAN - PROGRAMS, STRUCTURES, SERMONS, VOLUNTEERS, MEETINGS, AND EVENTS. WHILE THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH A GOOD BRAINSTORM, I TEND TO START THINKING ABOUT THE WAYS I COULD "MAKE THAT HAPPEN," WITHOUT ASKING GOD TO "MAKE IT HAPPEN" FIRST.

CORPORATE PRAYER

THE LORD BROUGHT THIS TO MY ATTENTION A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO (AND HAS REMINDED ME SEVERAL TIMES SINCE). I WAS READY TO CHALLENGE THE CONGREGATION! I WANTED THEM TO CATCH A VISION FOR REACHING THE LOST AND TRUSTING GOD FOR MIRACLES. SO GOD DIRECTED MY ATTENTION TO ACTS 4, WHERE THE BELIEVERS ASKED GOD TO INTERVENE MIRACULOUSLY AND PROVIDE THEM WITH BOLDNESS; VERSE 31 STATES, "WHEN THEY HAD PRAYED, THE PLACE WHERE THEY WERE ASSEMBLED WAS SHAKEN, AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND BEGAN TO SPEAK THE WORD OF GOD BOLDLY."

THE DIRECTION WAS CLEAR: OUR IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY WOULD START WITH COMING TOGETHER IN PRAYER. SO THAT'S WHAT WE DID! AND WATCHING GOD RESPOND TO OUR PRAYERS (BOTH FOR THE WORLD AND THE CHURCH) HAS BEEN SO ENCOURAGING.



CORPORATE PRAYER

THIS IS NOT ABOUT ONE CONGREGATION THOUGH. IT'S ABOUT THE ETERNAL FAITHFULNESS OF GOD, WHO RESPONDS TO THE PRAYERS OF HIS PEOPLE IN EVERY GENERATION! THE LORD IS INVITING YOU, AND THOSE WHOM YOU SERVE, TO ENJOY THIS AGE-OLD RHYTHM. THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD PEOPLE TOWARD DEPENDENCE ON GOD, AND TO OBSERVE HIS GOODNESS TOGETHER, IS YOURS!

LET THE LORD LEAD YOU, AS YOU ANSWER THIS INVITATION. WHAT HE GIVES YOU, AS FAR AS FORMAT IS CONCERNED, MAY LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT THAN WHAT YOU'VE SEEN ELSEWHERE. THAT'S OKAY! CONSIDER THE VARIETY OF POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE.

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APPLICATION

MAKING TIME ON SUNDAY

ASK PEOPLE TO JOIN YOU FOR A TIME OF PRAYER BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER YOUR WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE. LET THEM KNOW THAT THIS WILL BE A CHANCE TO CALL ON THE LORD TOGETHER! TRY 30 MINUTES, PRIOR TO THE START OF SERVICE; IF SCHEDULING DOESN'T ALLOW FOR THAT, DEDICATE 5-10 MINUTES OF THE SERVICE TO GROUP PRAYER.

PUTTING IT ON THE AGENDA

INCLUDE PRAYER IN TEAM MEETINGS AND PLANNING SESSIONS, AND CHALLENGE KEY LEADERS TO DO THE SAME. SIMPLY PUT IT AT THE TOP OF THE AGENDA - TO LIFT UP THE MINISTRY IN PRAYER. THEN, INSTEAD OF SAYING A BRIEF BLESSING, INVITE THOSE IN ATTENDANCE TO TAKE TURNS PETITIONING THE LORD.

USING THE TOOLS AVAILABLE

CREATE A FACEBOOK GROUP, WHERE YOU CAN CALL PEOPLE TO PRAYER ON A REGULAR BASIS; ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO USE THE COMMENTS FOR WRITTEN PRAYERS, IN RESPONSE TO EACH PROMPT THAT'S POSTED. OR USE A VIDEO CONFERENCING PLATFORM TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER FOR PRAYER, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE SPREAD OUT GEOGRAPHICALLY!

LEANING ON EACH OTHER

PRIORITIZE PRAYER IN SMALL GATHERINGS - WHETHER THAT BE GROUP MINISTRY, DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES, OR HOSPITALITY AROUND THE TABLE. HELP PEOPLE ESTABLISH A HABIT OF PRAYING BOLD PRAYERS TOGETHER, EXPECTING ANSWERS, AND SHARING HOW GOD RESPONDS! LEAD THEM IN LOOKING BACK WITH GRATITUDE AND FORWARD IN FAITH.

WHATEVER YOU DO, AND HOWEVER GOD LEADS, ENJOY IT. OBSERVING THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD IN COMMUNITY IS AS EXCITING AS IT IS TRANSFORMATIVE! MAY HE SHAKE THE GROUND YOU STAND ON AND SEND YOU OUT FULL OF THE SPIRIT.

WRITTEN BY

PASTOR NICK SEDERS



NICK SEDERS HAS BEEN IN FULL-TIME MINISTRY FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, MOST CURRENTLY SERVING AS THE LEAD PASTOR OF GREELEY FIRST ASSEMBLY. HE HAS A PASSION FOR TEACHING THE WORD IN A WAY THAT CHALLENGES AND INSTRUCTS, AND ALSO ISN'T AFRAID TO MAKE IT FUN AND ENGAGING FOR ALL AGE DEMOGRAPHICS REPRESENTED. WHEN HE'S NOT TENDING TO THE CONGREGATION, HE'S AN ACTIVE AND PRESENT HUSBAND AND FATHER TO HIS 3 (ALMOST 4) KIDS AND WIFE OF 12 YEARS. HE LOVES TO WRITE, LOVES STAND UP COMEDY, AND TO CATCH A NASCAR GAME WHEN HE CAN.