

THE BASIS OF OUR PRAYER:
CHRIST'S ASCENSION
(Acts 1:6-14; Eph. 1:18-23)

- I. Introduction (Acts 1:6-14)
 - A. The AVERAGE church today relies on TEMPORAL resources
 - 1. TRAINED LEADERSHIP
 - 2. ORGANIZATION
 - 3. FINANCES
 - 4. POLITICAL INFLUENCE
 - B. The EARLY church depended on DIVINE resources
 - 1. The WORD of God (Acts 4:29, 30)
 - 2. The SPIRIT of God (Acts 1:8; 2:30)
 - 3. PRAYER

- II. The Church's AUTHORITY (Matt. 28:18-20)
 - A. Christ's authority was PROVED by His RESURRECTION
 - B. Christ's authority SUPPORTS the work of the CHURCH
 - 1. We are able to COMMUNICATE with the FATHER
 - 2. We are able to ACT on His BEHALF

III. The Church's MINISTRY (Mark 16:19-20)

- A. Christ worked FOR us on the CROSS
- B. Christ works IN us by His SPIRIT
- C. Christ works THROUGH us to reach the LOST with the message of SALVATION

IV. The Church's ENERGY (Luke 24:49-53)

- A. PROVIDED by the HOLY SPIRIT
- B. PRESENT because of CHRIST'S ASCENSION
- C. APPROPRIATED through PRAYER (Acts 1:14; 4:31)

V. The Church's ACTIVITY

- A. Based on the ASCENSION OF CHRIST
- B. Occupied by PRAYER and PREACHING
- C. Energized by the HOLY SPIRIT