

“Prayer: A Declaration of Dependence” (Acts 1:12–26):

Philip Yancey *“prayer is a declaration of dependence upon God”*

**Observation: What do we see?**

- In Acts 1:12–14, what specific things were the disciples doing together in the upper room, and how is prayer described in their actions?

**Interpretation: What does it mean?**

- Why does the early church’s commitment to prayer in Acts 1 show that prayer is a declaration of dependence on God, rather than just a religious habit?

**Bonus:** Do you feel like your prayers have become just habit?

**Application: How do we put the word into action?**

Read this to your group: *Leonard Ravenhill ““A man may study because his brain is hungry for knowledge, even Bible knowledge. But he prays because his soul is hungry for God.”*

*“No man is greater than his prayer life.”*

1. The disciples turned to prayer first when they needed guidance. What is your first response when you face uncertainty—prayer or something else—and why?

**Bonus:** How about when you are tempted? Is your first thought to pray or struggle in your flesh?

2. Pastor Luke emphasized bringing darkness into the light so the Spirit can move freely. Is there anything in your life right now you need to surrender or bring into the light?

**Bonus:** Have you talked to a pastor or sought counseling? Why not?

3. If prayer reflects how dependent you are on God, what does your current prayer life say about your dependence on Him—and what is one step you can take this week to grow in that?

**Bonus:** As we go around and ask for prayer requests can you take your next faithful step in confessing your need through prayer with your group?