

FBC Sebring Wednesday Prayer Meeting – Pastor Matt Crawford

January 6, 2016

Prayer in the Book of Acts (Part 2)

Acts 4:23–31 (ESV) → see background in verses 13-22

²³*When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them.*

²⁴*And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, Who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,*

²⁵*Who through the mouth of our father David, Your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, ‘Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?*

²⁶*The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against His Anointed’—*

²⁷*for truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy Servant Jesus, Whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,*

²⁸*to do whatever Your hand and Your plan had predestined to take place.*

Prayer points:

- Pray that we (and Christians around the world) would obey God rather than men.
- Pray that – like these disciples – we would *first* turn to God in prayer when faced with persecution and threats.
- Praise God for His sovereign power, displayed through creation and through His rulership of the nations – despite their feeble rebellion.
- Praise God that He works good out of the plans of wicked men – including His glorious plan of redemption through the injustice of the cross!

²⁹*And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to Your servants to continue to speak Your Word with all boldness,*

³⁰*while You stretch out Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.”*

³¹*And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the Word of God with boldness.*

Prayer points:

- Pray for BOLDNESS in speaking God’s Word – despite the direction of your culture and the threats of your government.
- Pray that God would display His power through miraculous signs and wonders around us, including the saving and discipling of many souls!
- Pray that we would be filled with God’s Holy Spirit – submitting to *His* control (see Ephesians 5:18-21).