Spiritual Growth Track – 5
"Prayer"

A. Main text: Acts 2:42 (KJV) Apostles' doctrine, fellowship, breaking bread, prayers
     v. 42 (Amp) (NLT)

B. Luke 11:1-4 (Matt. 6:9-13)
   1. Teach us to pray
   2. We all need taught <u>HOW</u> to pray, <u>WHAT</u> to pray, <u>WHERE</u> to pray, <u>WHEN</u> to pray and
        <u>WHY</u> to pray.
   3. Understanding these contribute greatly to our growth
   4. There are different kinds of prayer for different situations and needs
         (Prayer of agreement / praying in the Spirit / prayer of faith / prayer of
            supplication/petitions) …
Example: Public prayer vs. private (prayer closet)
         "Duane, dismiss us."

<u>NOTE:</u> "What I do by grace cannot be mandated by law."
   * How to pray? Basic principles
   * What to pray? Depends on the need
   * Where to pray? Church?? Home? Work? On your knees
   * When to pray? 5 a.m.?? 4 times a day?
   * Why to pray? <u>Because</u> it <u>matters</u>
                          Prayer changes things (us)
                          Prayer bonds us with God and one another

C. Matt. 6:9-13 (Lord's Prayer) Model (one of many)
   1. How to pray ("Our Father…."
        Relate on the basis of covenant (family)
        God as Father delights in answering
   2. "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done….. in earth as it is in heaven…."
        <u>Why to pray?</u> God's will is not automatic
        vs. 13 "…. <u>Thine</u> is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen."
        <u>Ours</u> is the authority
          Matt. 16:19 (KJV)
          Matt. 18:18-20 (KJV)
   3. We are in partnership with God.
          I Cor. 3:6-9 plant / water / increase
                        Paul   Apollos   God

Acts 13:1-3
1. They ministered to the Lord (relationship / fellowship)
2. Holy Ghost spoke: "Separate Me Barnabas and Saul for the <u>work</u> whereunto I have
called them."
We have a role to play!

[Take Away]
1. Within your rhythms of grace (disciplines), work prayer into your daily disciplines.
2. During our worship time, learn to pray (thanking God)
3. During our offering time, pray for family and church
4. Take advantage of the ministry of altar workers (prayer of agreement)
5. Get into or start up a life group and pray for each other.