



What's NEXT?

Visioning Sessions

Book: *The Post-Quarantine Church* by *Thom S. Rainer*

June 1st 2022- 6:30pm

Recap

- ▶ Gather Differently and Better
 - ▶ Discussed ideas that could make us unique
 - ▶ Tutoring, adult GED classes, yoga, Community Farmers Market
- ▶ Seize Your Opportunity to Reach the Digital World
 - ▶ Expand Digital Platform and target audiences
- ▶ Reconnect with the Community Near Your Church
 - ▶ Adopt homes in the area and help make repairs to them.
 - ▶ Church Night Out:
 - ▶ Police and Fire presence along with food and music

Proud of:

1. Continued with the Pastoral search during the pandemic
2. Three diverse leaders in the pulpit and serving St. James
3. Gathered virtually for worship and small group meetings
4. Didn't give up!
5. Message and a Meal continued to deliver meals to people in need.



What stuck out to you in Challenge 4?

Take Prayer to a New and Powerful Level

“Cognitively, I know prayer is foundational to the health of a church. I know that any efforts of a church without prayer are human-centered and ultimately destined for failure. I know empirically that the healthiest churches are those with a high priority on prayer.”
pg. 55

- **What do you think about this comment?**
- **Do you agree or disagree?**
- **Why or why not?**

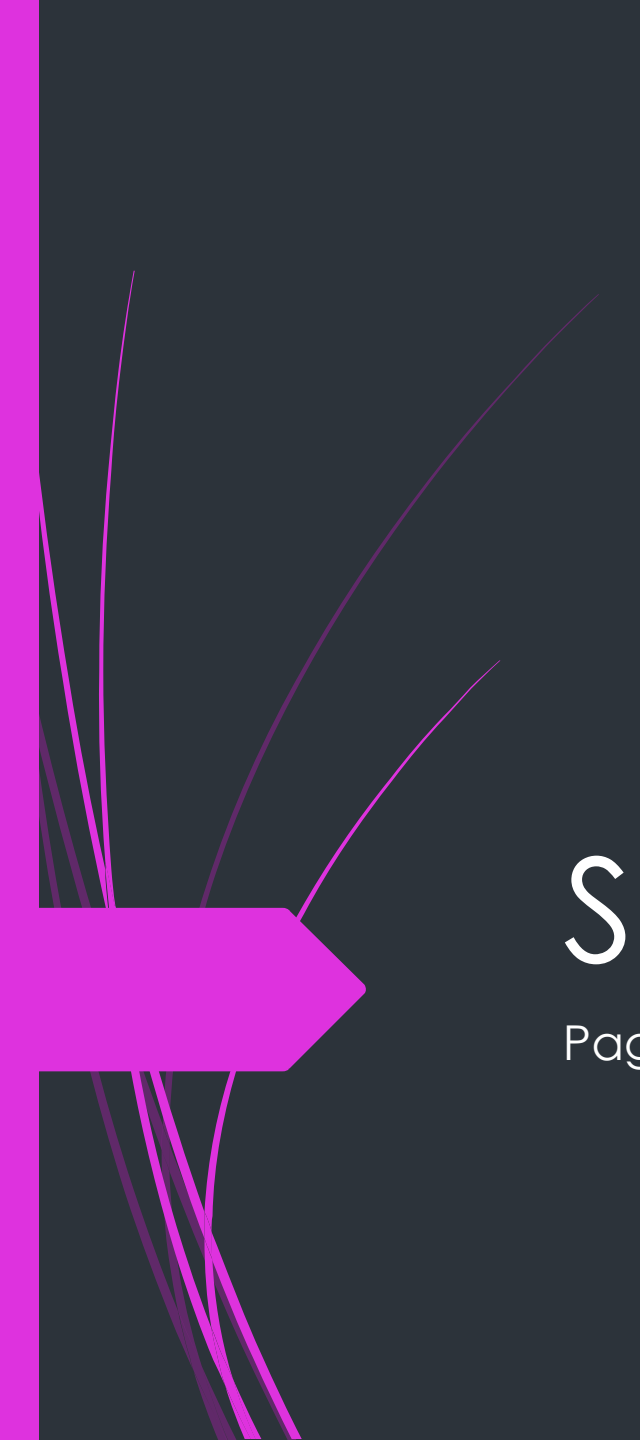
Power of Prayer (pgs. 57-58)

- ▶ Prayer is important.
- ▶ Not only is prayer important – it was also a unifying force in the church. The believers who gathered for prayer were of one heart and one mind.
- ▶ After Pentecost, the Jerusalem church began to take shape. We see the immediate priorities of the nascent congregation in Acts 2:42: “All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer.”



Power of Prayer

- ▶ The power of the congregation would be not human centered; it would be God directed.
- ▶ 2 Priorities: Teaching the Word and concentrating on prayer.



3.) Think about the technologies your church used during the pandemic and the ways those technologies can be used for prayer ministries today.

Small Group Discussion- 1

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What stuck out to you in
Challenge 5?

Rethink Your Facilities for Emerging Opportunities

See the church building from the perspective of the community rather than their church members.


- **What do you think about this thought or idea?**
- **How do you do this? What will it take?**



2.) Think of ways that your church may partner with another organization in the use of your church facilities.

Small Group Discussion- 2

Page 82-83



“Perhaps the most basic and obvious conclusion to be drawn from the pandemic is that it gave church leaders an opportunity to rethink everything, including the use of their physical facilities. It is an opportunity I call “the blank slate.”

But if church leaders and members don't take this opportunity to rethink everything they've been doing, it will indeed be an opportunity wasted. God may be waiting for you to write a new story for your church on the blank slate God has provided.”pg.82



FOOD
FOR
THOUGHT

Thank you for joining me!!

Last Session: Wed., June 8th
at 6:30pm

Chapter 6 and Concluding
Thoughts.

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