



Issue # 4

Updated: April 2004

Gathering Leaders to Pray Biblically to Hear God's Plan for Unified Action

God stresses the importance of unified action. In John 17:23, our Lord urges that His followers, "be brought to complete unity to let the world know" that the Father has loved Christians even as the Father has loved Christ. Apostle Paul reiterates the importance of unified action in Philippians 2:1-2 when he writes, "If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose."

How should Christians exhibit this unity? Scripture provides abundant teachings about the benefits of people uniting around a common purpose. Some of these teachings have been summarized at

Building the Covenant Community through Church-Planting
http://covenant.net/essays/essay_01.pdf

Building the Covenant Community through Life Planning
http://covenant.net/essays/essay_02.pdf

Building the Covenant Community through Mentoring
http://covenant.net/essays/essay_03.pdf

Building the Covenant Community through Prayer
http://covenant.net/essays/essay_04.pdf

Describing a Model Covenant Community
http://covenant.net/essays/essay_05.pdf

Harnessing the Power of the Web to Build a Covenant Community
http://covenant.net/essays/essay_06.pdf

Promoting the Biblical Worldview through Covenant Community Education
http://covenant.net/essays/essay_08.pdf

Does your organization reflect Christian unity? Experts on Biblical planning provide questions that you can ask the key people in your church, business, family, or nonprofit organization. Ask each leader to write his or her responses to the following questions:

1. Does the organization have a leadership team that is committed to meeting clearly defined needs in the community by uniting around a Biblical statement of mission and core values? (Have wise elders reviewed the mission and objectives and confirmed that the organization pursues Biblical ideals without being seduced by idols of church growth, comfort, recognition, and etcetera?)

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2. *Do the leaders have clear roles and responsibilities reflected in their written purpose statements and job descriptions?*
 3. *Is there a written strategic plan for harmonizing the roles of the leaders to focus on the organization's core values and fulfill its mission? (When conflicts develop among leaders, do leaders uphold principles in the Peacemaker's Pledge -- see <http://www.hispeace.org/html/bas.htm> -- and resolve conflicts in a Christ-honoring way?)*
 4. *Have leaders agreed to follow a written plan supported with quantifiable targets, timetables, and a reasonable budget without deficits?*
 5. *Is there a prayerful planning process for updating the written plan in response to changing needs and resources?*

Unfortunately, people in leadership positions frequently cannot answer "yes" to all five of the questions above. Fortunately, most people with leadership responsibilities have plenty of ideas for improving an organization so that everyone can give positive responses to the above queries.

Encourage each leader in your organization to suggest what he or she would change so that the whole leadership team can answer the above questions with an enthusiastic "YES." Then review the suggested changes to see if the leaders provide similar responses. If they do, then you have a leadership team that exhibits clear signs of Christian unity.

Now see if the members of your organization, especially those most committed to hearing God through Biblical prayer, concur that the leaders have clearly heard God's plan for unified action. If all the prayerful members of your organization share the leaders' understanding of God's plan for unified action, then praise the Lord! You can experience the complete joy that results from being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.

If the leaders and other prayerful members of your organization do not yet have full agreement about God's plan for unified action, then we urge them to pray much more and also read more about discerning our Lord's will. All of the books listed below provide valuable wisdom for people interested in praying Biblically to hear God's plan for unified action.

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Books on Biblical Prayer

AUTHOR	TITLE
Adams, Jay	Preaching With Purpose
Anderson, Richard	Living The Lord's Prayer: Our Power And Promise
Andrew Murray	Abide In Christ
Andrew Murray	The Ministry Of Intercession

Andrew Murray	With Christ In The School Of Prayer
Arthur M.A., J.P; Appleby, HJ	Thinking Spiritually
Arthur, Kay	Our Covenant God
Arthur, Kay	Lord, Teach Me To Pray In 28 Days
Ayo, Nicholas	The Lord's Prayer
Barna, George	Turning Vision Into Action
Barr, Lee & Norma	Leadership Equation, The
Bennis, Warren; Burt, Nanus	Leaders, The Strategies For Taking Charge
Biehl, Bobb	Increasing Your Leadership Confidence
Biehl, Bobb	Master-Planning
Biehl, Bobb	Mentoring
Biehl, Bobb	Question Book
Biehl, Bobb; Engstrom, Ted	Boardroom Confidence
Binnie, W.	The Imprecations: God's Forgotten Prayers Of Power
Blackaby, Henry; Brandt, Henry; Skinner, Kerry	Power Of The Call
Blackwood, Andrew	Leading In Public Pray Prayer
Blamires, Harry	Christian Mind, The
Block, Peter	Stewardship
Boa, Ken	Handbook To Prayer: Praying Scripture Back To God
Boa, Ken	Handbook To Renewal: Renewing Your Mind With Affirmations From Scripture

Boice, James	Hearing God When You Hurt
Bounds	Complete Works Of E.M. Bounds On Prayer
Bounds, E.M.	Power Through Prayer
Bounds, E.M.	Powerful And Prayer Pulpits
Bounds, E.M.	Purpose In Prayer
Bounds, E.M.	Obtaining Answers To Prayer
Bounds, E.M.	The Necessity of Prayer - E.M. Bounds
Bridges, Jerry	Discipline Of Grace, The
Bridges, Jerry	Transforming Grace
Bridges, Jerry	Trusting God
Bridges, William	Managing Transition
Bridges, William	Transitions, Making Sense Of Life's Changes
Bright, Bill	Christian And Prayer, The
Brings, Lawrence	We Believe In Prayer
Brokering, Herbert	Luther's Prayers
Brother Andrew	The Calling
Brother Lawrence	Practice Of The Presence Of God
Buford, Bob	Game Plan
Buford, Bob	Halftime
Burkett, Larry	Business By The Book, Expanded Edition
Burkett, Larry	Business By The Book
Callahan, Kennon	Dynamic Worship
Campbell, Morgan	God's Perfect Will - Morgan, G. Campbell

Carson, D.A.	A Call To Spiritual Reformation: Priorities From Paul And His Prayers
Carter, Stephen	Integrity
Caruthers, Merlin	Prisoner To Praise
Casey, Michael	Sacred Reading : The Ancient Art Of Lectio Divina
Chambers, Oswald	If You Will Ask - Chambers, Oswald
Chewning Ph.D., Richard	Christians In The Marketplace Series: Biblical Principles & Economics
Chewning Ph.D., Richard	Christians In The Marketplace Series: Biblical Principles & Public Policy
Chewning Ph.D., Richard	Christians In The Marketplace Series: Biblical Principles And Business
Collins, James; Porras, Jerry	Built To Last
Cook, William	Success, Motivation, And The Scripture
Covey, Stephen	7 Habits Of Highly Effective Families, The
Covey, Stephen	Principle-Centered Leadership
Covey, Stephen; Merrill, A. Roger; Merrill, Rebecca	First Things First Every Day
Coward, John W	Why Dont I Get What I Pray For
Craig, William Lane	No Easy Answers: Finding Hope In Doubt, Failure, And Unanswered Prayer
Cymbala, Jim	Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire
Dayton, Edward	Succeeding In Business Without Losing Your Faith
Dayton, Edward; Engstrom, Ted	Strategy For Leadership

Diehl, William	In Search Of Faithfulness
Diehl, William	Thank God It's Monday
Dunne, Tad	Spiritual Mentoring
Edwards, Brian	Revival: A People Saturated With God
Edwards, Gene	Our Mission
Elliot, Elisabeth	God's Guidance. A Slow & Dertain Light
Ellis, David B.	Creating Your Future : Five Steps To The Life Of Your Dreams; David B. Ellis, Dave Ellis; Hardcover; @ \$15.40
Ellis, Lee; Burkett, Larry	Your Career In Changing Times
Engstrom, Ted; Dayton, Edward	Christian Executive, The
Ferguson, Sinclair	Discovering God's Will
Floyd, Ronnie	Power Of Prayer And Fasting, The
Forsythe, P.T.	The Soul of Prayer - P.T. Forsythe
Foster, Richard	Challenge Of The Disciplined Life, The
Foster, Richard	Coming Home
Foster, Richard	Finding The Path
Foster, Richard	Prayer
Foster, Richard	Prayers From The Heart
Foster, Richard	Coming Home: A Prayer Journal \$8.95
Foster, Richard	Spiritual Disciplines For The Christian Life
Frame, John	Worship In Spirt And Truth
Friendeman, Matt	Accountability Connection
Friesen, Garry	Decision Making & The Will Of God

Fritz, Roger	How To Manage Your Boss
Gaebelein, Frank	Pattern Of God's Truth, The
Gallup Jr, George	Saints Among Us, The
Gallup Jr, George; Poling, David	Searching For America's Faith, The
Gendlin, Eugene	Focusing
George, Bob	A Closer Look At Faith, Hope, Love
Gibson, Rj	Explorations 11 Interpreting God's Plan: Biblical Theology & The Pastor
Goldsmith, Martin & Elizabeth	Finding Your Way
Goldsworthy, Graeme	According To Plan
Grant, Zachary	Paths To Renewal
Guardini, Romano	The Art Of Praying
Guideposts	Miracle Of Prayer: True Stories From Guideposts About The Power Of Prayer
Guinness, Os	Call, The
Hall, Robert	Grace Abounding In A Believer's Life
Hall, Robert	Power Of Prayer In A Believer's Life
Hall, Robert	What The Holy Spirit Does In A Believer's Life
Halleseby, O	Prayer: A World Famous Classic To Deepen And Enrich Your Prayer Life
Hauck, Gary	Equipped For Service
Heidebrecht, Paul	God's Man In The Market-Place
Hendricks, Howard & William	As Iron Sharpens Iron

Henry, Matthew	A Method For Prayer
Hession, Roy	Calvary Road
Hoffman, Law.	The Art Of Public Prayer: Not For Clergy Only
Howard, Evan	Praying The Scriptures : A Field Guide For Your Spiritual Journey
Hudnut, Robert	Call Waiting : How To Hear God Speak
Huggett, Joyce	Joy Of Listening To God, The
Hunter, W.Bingham	God Who Hears, The
Hybels, Bill	Christians In The Marketplace
Hybels, Lynne & Bill	Rediscovering Church
James F. White	A Brief History Of Christian Worship
James F. White	Introduction To Christian Worship
Jenson, Ron	Bible In Business, The
Jenson, Ron	Life Maximizers
Jenson, Ron	Make A Life Not Just A Living
John Garmo	Lifestyle Worship
Johnson, Ben	Listening For God
Johnson, Ben	Speaking Of God
Johnson, Ben	To Will God's Will: Beginning The Journey
Johnson, Ben	To Pray God's Will: Continuing The Journey
Johnson, James	Profits, Power & Piety
Jones, Gordon & Rosemary	Naturally Gifted
Jones, Laurie	Jesus Ceo. Using Ancient Wisdome For Visionary Leadership

Jones, Laurie	Path, The
Jones, Patricia; Kahaner, Larry	Say It & Live It
Kallestad, Walt	Everyday, Anytime Guide To Chistian Leadership, The
Keating, Charles	Who We Are Is How We Pray : Matching Personality And Spirituality
Keller, W. Phillip	Strength Of Soul: The Sacred Use Of Time
Kennon L. Callahan	Dynamic Worship: Mission, Grace, Praise, And Power
Kincaid, Jorie	Power Of Modeling
Kolbe, Kathy	Conative Connetion, The
Kolbe, Kathy	Pure Instinct
Kouzes, James; Posner, Barry	Leadership Challenge, The
Kreeft, Peter	Journey, The
Larson, Robert	Best Of Ted Engstrom, The
Laubach, Frank	Prayer: The Mightiest Force In The World
Lawrence, William	Beyond The Bottom Line
Leider, Richard	Power Of Purpose, The
Littleton, Mark	Delighted By Discipline
Lloyd-Jones, Mart.	Enjoynig The Presense Of God
Macarthur, John	Strength for Today - John MacArthur
Macdonald, Gordon	Ordering Your Private World
Maeder, Gary	God's Will For Your Life
Magrassi, Mariano	Praying The Bible : An Introduction To Lectio Divina

Malphurs, Aubrey	Advanced Strategic Planning
Malphurs, Aubrey	Values-Driven Leadership
Marva J. Dawn	Truly The Community: Romans 12 And How To Be The Church
Maxwell, John	Developing The Leaders Around You
Maxwell, John	The 21 Irrefutable Laws Of Leadership : Follow Them And People Will Follow You
Mccarthy, Kevin	The On-Purpose Business : Doing More Of What You Do Best More Profitably; Kevin W. Mccarthy; Hardcover; @ \$12.60
Mcdermott	One Holy And Happy Society
McMakin, Jacqueline; Nary, Rhoda	Discovering Your Gifts, Vision, And Call
Merton, Thomas	Praying The Psalms
Ministry In The Marketplace Series	Why Go To Work?
Murray, Andrew	Blessings Of Obedience
Murray, Andrew	In The School Of Prayer
Nanus, Burt	Visionary Leadership
Newman, James	Release Your Brakes!
Noble, Sara	301 Great Management Ideas
Norris	The Cloister Walk
Nouwen, Henri	Living Reminder:Service And Prayer In Memory Of Jesus Christ
Novak, Michael	Business As A Calling
Old, Hughes	Guides To The Reformed Tradition
Operation Timothy	Finding The Way

Operation Timothy	Knowing The Truth
Operation Timothy	Leader's Guide
Operation Timothy	Living With Power
Operation Timothy	Making A Difference
Otis, George	Informed Intercession
Owensby, Walter	Economics For Prophets
Packer, J.I.	Knowing God
Packer, J.I.	Quest For Godliness, A
Packer, J.I.	Rediscovering Holiness
Packer, J.I.	A Passion For Faithfulness: Wisdom From The Book Of Nehemiah
Packer, J.I.	Growing In Christ
PACKER, J.I.	A Quest For Godliness: Puritan Vision
Palau, Louis	Healthy Habits For Spiritual Growth : 52 Principles For Personal Change
Palmer, Earl	Prayer Between Friends
Peel, William C.	What God Does When Men Pray: A Small Group Discussion Guide
Peel, William Carr	What God Does When Men Pray
Peters, Thomas; Waterman Jr, Robert	In Search Of Excellence
Peterson, Eugene	Praying With The Early Christians
Pink, Arthur	Guide To Fervent Prayer, A
Pink, Arthur	A Guide To Fervent Prayer
Potter, Peter	All About Prayer

Prater, Arnold	Prayer Partners: Spiritual Enrichment For Your Marriage \$2.95 Cbd Stock #34802
Pratt, Richard	Pray With Your Eyes Open: Looking At God, Ourselves, And Our Prayers
Preston, John	Puritans On Prayer
Proctor, William; Seibert, Donald	Ethical Executive
Rayburn, Robert	O Come Let Us Worship
Reapsome, James	Effective Prayer
Rice, Craig	Strategic Planning For The Small Business
Rice, John R	Prayer: Asking And Receiving
Rich, Stanley; Gumpert, David	Business Plans That Win \$\$\$
Richardson, Pete	Focusing Your Men's Ministry
Robbins, John	Justification By Faith Alone
Roberts	Praying God's Will For My Pastor
Robertson, O. Palmer	Christ Of The Covenants, The
Robertson, Pat	Plan, The
Rush, Myron	Lord Of The Marketplace
Rush, Myron	Management: A Biblical Approach
Sandburg, Carl	Lincoln's Devotional
Sanders, J.Oswald	Every Life Is A Plan Of God
Sanders, Oswal	Prayer Power Unlimited
Schuller, Robert	If It's Going To Be, It's Up To Me
Scott, Steven	Simple Steps To Impossible Dreams

Senge, Peter	Fifth Discipline, The
Shaw, Harold	Prayers Across The Centuries: Abraham, Jesus St. Augustine, Martin Luther, Susanna Wesley
Sherman, Doug	Keeping Your Head Up When Your Job's Got You Down
Sherman, Doug; Hendricks, William	How To Succeed Where It Really Counts
Sherman, Doug; Hendricks, William	Keeping Your Ethical Edge Sharp
Sherman, Doug; Hendricks, William	Your Work Matters To God
Sherrer, Quin & Garlock, Ruthanne	Spiritual Warriors Prayer Guide
Sibbald, John	Career Makers, The
Simon, Julian	Ultimate Resource 2, The
Sims, H. Herchiel	Leader, The
Simsic, Wayne	Praying With Thomas Merton (Companions For The Journey)
Smith, Hyrum	10 Natural Laws Of Successful Time And Life Management
Smith, M. Blaine	Knowing God's Will
Smith, W.B.	Optimism Factor: Outrageous Faith Against The Odds
Sondra Higgins Matthaei	The God We Worship
Sproul, R.C.	Willing To Believe
Sproul, R.C.	Mystery of the Holy Spirit - Sproul, R.C.
Sproul, R.C.	Before The Face Of God: A Daily Guide To Living From The Old Testament
Sproul, R.C.	Following Christ. Who Is Jesus? How Can I Pray? How Do I Find God's Will? How Should I Live?

Spurgeon, C.H.	Twelve Sermons On Prayer
Spurgeon, Charles	Your Available Power
Spurgeon, Charles	Twelve Sermons On Prayer
Spurgeon, Charles	Morning And Evening
Spurgeon, Charles	The Power Of Prayer In A Believers Life
SPURGEON, CHARLES	The Triumph Of Faith In A Believer's Life
Stackhouse, Marvin	Covenant And Commitment: Faith, Family, And Economic Life
Stanley, Charles	In Touch with God - Stanley, Charles F.
Stanley, Charles	Talking with God - Stanley, Charles F.
Stanley, Chas	God's Power Through Prayer
Swanson, Ken	Uncommon Prayer: Approaching Intimacy With God
Tamasy, Robert	Complete Christian Business
Tamasy, Robert	Jesus Works Here
Templeton, John	Is Progress Speeding Up?
Tice, Lou	Personal Coaching For Results
Tieger, Paul; Barron-Tieger, Barbara	Do What You Are, Second Edition
Tozer	Christian Book Of Mystical Verse
Tozer	Warfare Of The Spirit: Developing Spiritual Maturity
Tozer	The Knowledge Of The Holy
Tozer, A.W.	The Pursuit Of God
Tozer, A.W.	Men Who Met God
Treacy, Michael; Wiersema, Fred	Discipline Of Market Leaders, The

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Vision Foundation	Ministry In The Marketplace: Time For Prayer
Wagner, C. Peter	Warefare Prayer
Wagner, Peter	Breaking Strongholds In Your City : How To Use Spiritual Mapping Tomake Your Prayers More Strategic, Effective And Targeted
Wagner, Peter	Engaging The Enemy How To Fight And Defeat Territorial Spirits
Wagner, Peter	Churches That Pray
Wagner, Peter	Warfare Prayer
Walsh, Brian; Middleton, J.Richard	Transforming Vision, The
Waltke, Bruce	Knowing The Will Of God; Bruce Waltke, Jerry Macgregor (Contributor); Paperback; @ \$7.19
Walton, John	Covenant, God's Purpose, God's Plan
Warren W. Wiersbe	Classic Sermons On Worship
Warren, Rick	Purpose Driven Church
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Webster, Douglas	Finding Spiritual Direction
Wells, David	Losing Our Virtue

Wesley	A Plain Account Of Christian Perfection
White, James	Brief History Of Christian Worship, A
White, James	Forgotten Trinity, The
White, James	Protestant Worship
White, John	Daring To Draw Near: People In Prayer Are People Open To God
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Wieder, Marcia	Doing Less And Having More : Five Easy Steps For Achieving Your Dreams; Marcia Wieder(Editor); Paperback; @ \$10.40
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Wright, Robert	Beyond Time Management
Wubbels, Lance	Power Of Christ The Warrior, The
Wubbels, Lance	Power Of Christ's Prayer Life, The
Yancy, Philip	Church: Way Bother?

Ziglar, Zig	Top Performance
Zyromski, Page	Pray The Bible