

Acts 6:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Analysis

The apostles committed to 'give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.' This prioritization established the pattern of pastoral focus. 'Continually' (proskartereo) implies devoted persistence. Prayer and Word constitute the shepherd's primary calling.

Historical Context

This division of labor protected apostolic teaching ministry while ensuring practical needs were met. The model influenced later church office development.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How do prayer and Word ministry relate to each other in pastoral calling?
2. What does this prioritization teach about protecting essential ministries?

Interlinear Text

ἡμεῖς δὲ τῇ προσευχῇ καὶ τῇ διακονίᾳ τοῦ λόγου
we **But** G3588 **to prayer** **and** G3588 **to the ministry** G3588 **of the word**
G2249 G1161 G4335 G2532 G1248 G3056

προσκαρτερήσομεν

will give ourselves continually
G4342

Additional Cross-References

Acts 1:14 (Prayer): These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Acts 2:42 (Prayer): And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

2 Timothy 4:2 (Word): Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Romans 1:9 (Prayer): For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;