

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 11:5-13

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

HOW A CHRISTIAN PRAYS

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,
THE SON OF GOD, AND THE SON OF MAN*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Prayer, Power, Holy Spirit, Empowerment

Prayer Is The Line of Communication
That The Lord has Established for Us to Dialogue with Him.

Jesus Employs The Use of a Parable
to illustrate the importance of persistent prayer and the need of the Person of the Holy
Spirit in the Life of the Believer!

**When the Lord desires to teach us something extra important -
He often used the power of verbal technicolor – a parable!!!**

Luke 11:5-13

And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; :6 for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; :7 and he will answer from within and say, "Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you"? :8 I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his **persistence** he will rise and give him as many as he needs. :9 "So I say to you, **ask**, and it will be **given** to you; **seek**, and you will **find**; **knock**, and it will be **opened** to you. :10 For everyone who **asks receives**, and he who **seeks finds**, and to him who **knocks** it will be **opened**. :11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he asks* for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? :12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? :13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father **give** the Holy Spirit to those who **ask Him!**"

**The Intent of This Parable is
More Than Asking, Seeking and Knocking.**

More than being persistent at prayer,

this parable is about a great contrast.

Jesus will teach us about our **Father's Heart** regarding prayer.

HOW A CHRISTIAN PRAYS

1.) Is with audacity

v. 5-8

au·dac·i·ty

great boldness, daring of spirit, resolute or confident.

with a daring or willingness to tackle something difficult or dangerous or challenging. to take on an impossible mission.

1a.) Indifferent of timing

v.5-7

And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; :6 for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; :7 and he will answer from within and say, "Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'?"

The Audacity of this Man.

This is a Parabolic Illustration

the middle east culture is **warm** and **hospitable**, don't confuse middle east hospitality with Islam and Islam's treatment of Christians and Jews.

I'm Talking Culture, not Cult.

it would not be uncommon for these men listening to relate to this story.

if you press this parable

you can begin to see that the man who's asking, seeking and knocking at his neighbor's door is a man **interceding** on behalf of a friend in need.

as a Christian, we intercede for others.
for those we **love**, those we **like**, those we **cannot stand**...
we **pray** for others, we **cry** for others, we **get inside** their skin and **pray** for them.

Colossians 1:9

For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

THE CHRISTIAN PRAYS WITH AUDACITY

1b.) Persistent in calling v.8a

I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend,
yet because of his **persistence**...



Grk **persistence**: ajnai÷deia anaideia, an-ah´ -ee-die-ah´
shameless carrying on. unable to be embarrassed, impudence.

Culturally, They Got It;

Jesus - - "you all know what it's like
when a friend comes to your door at midnight and starts knocking?"

**this "persistence" is to characterize our praying.
we often quit too soon in prayer, we give up!**

this "**persistent audacity**" is a sign of **confidence** and **assurance**.
it's the firm assurance that the answer will come.

because of his **persistence** the man (**will**) rise and give

urgency creates persistence,
persistence results in continuance
"this is the abiding relationship of the child of God with his Creator"

Example of Persistent Prayer – Peter's in Jail...

Acts 12:5

Peter was therefore kept in prison, but **constant prayer**
was offered to God for him by the church.

Passionate, Relentless Prayer

Nehemiah 1:4

So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned *for many* days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

Hebrews 5:7

In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety.

the days are soon coming when,
you and I will fall before the Lord
with loud crying and tears as we will pray like never before

**this teaches us that His delays are not denials,
His delays build our faith...**

THE CHRISTIAN PRAYS WITH AUDACITY

1c.) Desperate with need

v.8b

because of his **persistence** he (**will**) rise and give him as many as he needs.

Christian, we have our God to run to for every need

Proverbs 18:10

The name of the LORD *is* a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.

Romans 12:12

rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, **continuing steadfastly** in prayer;

HOW A CHRISTIAN PRAYS

2.) Is with diligence

v. 9-10

:9 "So I say to you, **ask**, and it will be **given** to you; **seek**, and you will **find**; **knock**, and it will be **opened** to you. :10 For everyone who **asks receives**, and he who **seeks finds**, and to him who **knocks** it will be **opened**.

diligence
the discipline of continuing steadily onward
despite problems or obstacles or setbacks

THE CHRISTIAN PRAYS WITH DILIGENCE

2a.) Diligence develops hope

v.9

“So I say to you, **ask**, and it will be **given** to you;

ask

*also in the Greek, present tense means to;
crave, desire, yearn, long*

keep on asking and asking and asking...

>>>>> One Distracted Mother, One Focused Child <<<<<<

have you ever seen a little kid trying to get mama's attention?
can I have this mom? mom, can I have this? mom, mother can I have one of these?
mom, I want this! mom, mom, mom, Betty, can I have this?

Here's a “Hope” Developing Verse

Matthew 6:8

“For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

THE CHRISTIAN PRAYS WITH DILIGENCE

2b.) Diligence causes anticipation v.9

seek, and you will **find**

seek

*also in the Greek, present tense;
to hunt, to stock, to search*

keep on seeking and seeking and seeking...

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray,
believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

Psalm 25:5

Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You *are* the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.

THE CHRISTIAN PRAYS WITH DILIGENCE

2c.) Diligence produces confidence

v.9

knock, and **it will** be opened to you.

Prayer is an Interesting Thing;
it is both an indicator of our **dependance** and our **confidence**.
(Only in the Lord can these opposites make sense)

this word knock is the most forceful word of the three.

knock

also in the Greek, present tense means;
to rap on - - to keep on knocking and knocking and knocking...

Praying with Diligent Prayer
means that, that **thing**, that **issue** is all important to you.

how important is exercising to you.
enough to work at it and to sweat for it and to push toward it?

how important is education to you.
enough to invest in it and to stay up late for it and to work for it?

John 14:13-14

And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. :14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.

THE CHRISTIAN PRAYS WITH DILIGENCE

2d.) Diligence creates assurance

v.10

For **everyone** who **asks receives**, and he who **seeks finds**,
and to him who **knocks** it will be **opened**.

with each of these verbs stacked atop the other,
we see a rise in intensity and in urgency
asking, elevates to seeking which elevates to knocking.

The Contrast Is This...

if a tired and grumpy neighbor finally gives in and meets the need of a
troublesome friend, how much more will your father in heaven
supply what's needed?

When We Hear From Him – Assurance Explodes Upon Us

when I was a little jack,

I used to get so scared when the Santa Ana winds would blow at night.

I would call down the hallway to my parents' room
Dad, are you asleep? - - I would cough, move around and call again...
until I got an answer - -

If My Earthly Dad Who was All Ticked Off at Me for Waking Him Up would answer
me....

the argument is clear;

we can count on the answer coming because we are the children of the father. we
call from the same house to the Father.

!!! to be in His presence, Asking, Seeking, Knocking!!!
(this must be encouraging)

this asking and seeking and knocking

is that “**abiding**” that a Christian is to be engaged in.

John 15:5

“I am the vine; you *are* the branches. He who **abides** in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

HOW A CHRISTIAN PRAYS

3.) Is with expectation

v. 11-13

expectation

the “looking forward to” of an answer, an event, an arrival.
to wait with assurance that something will happen.

THE CHRISTIAN PRAYS WITH EXPECTATION

3a.) Trusting the Father

v.11-12

If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he* asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? :12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?...

What a Ridicules Thought (?)

this is a grotesque picture of a father.

(Whose Name has Got to be Alfred Hitchcock or Stephen King)

What Kind of Father Would Give You a Rock to Suck On, Or a Snake to Eat?

Hey kid bite this scorpion and see what happens !

Remember; “Contrast”

But If This Kind of a Father Knows to Give His Child Good Things,
how much more loving is your heavenly father

The Truth Christian;
there are things that God wants us to have but we will never have them because we don't ask. – strange isn't it?

James 4:2b-3

...You do not have because you do not ask. :3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

THE CHRISTIAN PRAYS WITH EXPECTATION

3b.) Receiving the Spirit

v.13

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father **give** the Holy Spirit to those who **ask** Him!”

There’s an interesting debate that has gone on for 2,000 years about the exact meaning to these verses.

1. is the thrust of the teaching about persistent prayer?
2. is it about the nature of God toward His children?
3. or is it about God doing what men are not willing to do?

But Perhaps the Lesson is Summed Up here at The End.

how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

John 14:14-16

If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*. :15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. :16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you **another Helper**, that He may abide with you forever—

Romans 8:26-27

Likewise the (Holy) Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the (Holy) Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. :27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

End of Study