

# ALL THE PARABLES OF JESUS

## A SYSTEMATIC SERIES

UNVEILING GOD'S ETERNAL TRUTH IN THE PARABOLIC TEACHINGS OF JESUS CHRIST

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### **“THE PARABLE OF PERSISTENT PRAYER”**

*ALL THE PARABLES OF JESUS UNVEILED*

**Parable #5**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

***Parables, Truth, Enlightenment, Prayer, Wisdom***

**Luke 11:5-8**

**Matthew 13:1-3a**

On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. :2 And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. :3a Then He spoke many things to them in **parables**.

## **GOD'S TECHNICOLOR TRUTH IN ACTION PERSISTENT PRAYER**

**Tenacity, Determination, Doggedness, Resolve, Stubbornness,**

**Luke 11:5-8**

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.

## The Key, as always - to understanding a text

Is in light of its context, meaning: that which surrounds the verse or passage enforces the text.

### The Context Helps Us Greatly Here

#### Luke 11:1-4

:1 Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, *that* one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples." :2 So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven. 3 Give us day by day our daily bread. 4 And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."

### Our Text Luke 11:5-8 is Tucked in Here

#### Luke 11:9-13

: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!"

### A Parable is One of Contrasts

*(An effective form of teaching. Teaching from the Lesser to the Greater.*

*We know the negative, God Counters with the Positive. We know the Inconvenience, God Counters with the convenient.)*

## PERSISTENT PRAYER

1.) In The Face of Life

v.5-6

### Luke 11:5-6

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'

### The 1<sup>st</sup> century home in Israel

was nothing more than glorified one-room apartment.

*At night the father would tuck his wife into the deepest part of the room against the back wall. Then dad would tuck the kids against mom. Then dad would either lay down next to the kids, between them and the door or between certain frail animals and the door. Either way – the house was like a sardine can.*

"Hey buddy - It's really a big deal to get you your answer.  
You want me to disrupt my entire household for your poor planning - not now!"

The kind of Need that Comes Out of Nowhere

### This is A Parable of Contrasts

The Ability of a Friend to Help is Limited – Compared to God

The Hour of the Visitation is Limiting – Compared to God

The Scope of a Grace is Limited – Compared to God

The Association of Friendship is Limited – Compared to God

The Capacity of the Supply is Limited – Compared to God

### Prayer is an ongoing Conversation

#### Matthew 6:5-7

"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. 7 And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

# PERSISTENT PRAYER

## 2.) In The Face of Fear

v.7

**Luke 11:7**

7 And he will answer from within and say, (1) "Do not trouble me; (2) the door is now shut, and (3) my children are with me in bed; (4) I cannot rise and give to you' ?

### **This is A Parable of Contrasts**

**Verse 7** is in the Negative – ***This is what's not going to happen for you.***

The kind of "Fear" that creeps in when we think God is not listening or is unwilling to hear or will not act on our behalf.

The LORD says "Come on and ask".

**1 Thessalonians 5:17**

Pray without **ceasing**

**ceasing** ajdialei ÷ ptwβ **adialeiptos**, *ad-ee-al-ipe'-toce*;  
Uninterruptedly, Without omission. Without end.

**Psalm 145:18**

The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth.

**God is not like those in this parable of contrast.**

**Jeremiah 33:3**

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

"God, is the one who does not sleep, He is the One who awakens us from our sleep and prompts us to seek Him and to ask of Him.

## What Should Our Attitude Be About Prayer & Praying ?

### **Psalm 100:4-5**

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. **5** For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.

### The New Testament Counterpart

### **Philippians 4:6**

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; **7** and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

### **Psalm 22:2**

O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear;  
And in the night season, and am not silent.

The New Testament Revelation of God is "Our Father"  
(The Lord is Hearing at All Times)

I find it amazing that everyone prays - eventually

## **PERSISTENT PRAYER**

### **3.) In The Face of Waiting**

**v.8**

### **Luke 11:8**

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

**Remember - This is A Parable of Contrasts**  
**The LORD is not Indifferent or ill willed Toward Your Request.**

**Persistence**     a jnai ÷ deia anaideia, an-ah´-ee-die-ah´;  
Shameless, Shameless Tenacity, Shameless Determination,  
Doggedness, Shameless Resolve, Shameless Stubbornness,  
**persist until // persist until // persist until // persist until**

**Psalm 27:14**

Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart;  
Wait, I say, on the LORD!

***Who is the one being persistent here?***

The Definition Can Apply to Either Neighbor.  
The visiting neighbor as well as the sleeping neighbor.

*In the ancient Middle East hospitality was paramount.  
To show hospitality was to show brotherly love.*

To not show hospitality  
Was to bring disgrace and shame upon the house, the family,  
even your hometown villagers.

The kind of waiting that brings us to the answer  
and not the answer to us.

Prayer and Answered Prayer re-shapes us and our understanding –  
And sometimes it's very painful and can be devastating but good.

***(Example - Jeremiah 12)***

"If you have run with the footmen, and they have wearied you, Then how can  
you contend with horses? And *if* in the land of peace, *In which* you trusted, *they*  
*wearied you*, Then how will you do in the floodplain of the Jordan?"

If God answers us with a no, are we to keep asking Him in prayer for that thing until He gives it up?  
No. But we are to keep asking until we get an answer.  
The answer could be no, yes, or wait.

- Abraham is **persistent** for Sodom – Genesis 18
- Jacob is **persistent** wrestling with God – Genesis 32
- Moses is **persistent** interceding for Israel – Exodus 32
- Hannah is **persistent** asking for a son – 1 Samuel 1
- Elijah is **persistent** asking for rain – 1 Kings 18

**We're to keep praying until we have an answer.**

(An answer from God, not from a friend, not from the internet, not from the pastor, not from the  
horoscope, not from a fortune cookie)

# PERSISTENT PRAYER

## 4.) In The Face of Need

v.5

**Luke 11:5**

And give him as many as he needs.

### **But God is not like this**

He's more generous than this picture paints.

**Matthew 6:8**

"Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

God's Supply is always more than enough.

We have a sobering example of what might be the most passionate, persistent prayer ever offered up before the throne of God.

**Matthew 26:36-45**

Then Jesus came with His disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." **37** And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. **38** Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me... **:39** He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You *will*." **:40** Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? **41** Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak." **:42** Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." **43** And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. **:44** So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. **45** Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are *you* still sleeping and resting?"

**Acts 2:42**

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and *(continued steadfastly)* in prayers.

**Psalm 88:1-3a**

O LORD, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. **2** Let my prayer come before You; Incline Your ear to my cry. **3** For my soul is full of troubles,

**Romans 12:12**

Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;

**PERSISTENT PRAYER**

**5.) In The Face of Today**

**v.5-8**

**Matthew 6:11**

Give us this day our daily (every single day) bread.

**Psalm 37:4**

Delight yourself also in the LORD,  
And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

**John 15:7**

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

**Psalm 50:15**

Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

**The LORD'S Prayer**  
*(Let's Stand for His Word)*

**John 17:1-26**

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, **2** as You



have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. **3** And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. **4** I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. **5** And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. **:6** "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. **7** Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. **8** For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. **:9** "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. **10** And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. **11** Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We *are*. **12** While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. **13** But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. **14** I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. **15** I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. **16** They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. **17** Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. **18** As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. **19** And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. **:20** "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; **21** that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. **22**

And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: **23** I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. **:24** “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. **25** O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. **26** And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

## **Let's Pray Tonight Regarding The Holy Spirit**

### **I Want to Invite You to Come Forward Tonight**

>>>> The Cross, The Christ, The Call <<<<

\_\_\_\_\_ *End of Study* \_\_\_\_\_

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