

**1. THE PRIORITY OF PRAYER**

**Luke 11:1** Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”

- A. Prayer was a **PRIORITY** with Jesus
- B. Prayer is to be a priority for Jesus’ **FOLLOWERS**

**2. THE PATTERN FOR PRAYING**

**Luke 11:2** And he said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread, <sup>4</sup>and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.”

- A. Praying IS **ASKING**
- B. Prayer is Asking that is **ALIGNED WITH** God’s Will

*If it would be good for you to have,  
it would be good for you to ask God for.*

**3. THE PARABLE OF PRAYER**

**Luke 11:5** And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, <sup>6</sup> for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; <sup>7</sup>and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything?’ <sup>8</sup> I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs.”

- A. Prayer involves asking God to meet peoples’ needs
- B. There is a kind of Asking that God is inclined to Answer
  - 1) Based on **RELATIONSHIP**
  - 2) Brimming with **CONFIDENCE**
  - 3) Being **SPECIFIC**
  - 4) Bent on **BLESSING**
  - Others
  - 5) **BOLDLY**, Shamelessly Persistent

**4. THE PROMISE OF PRAYER**

**Luke 11:9** And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup> What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will

instead of a fish give him a serpent; <sup>12</sup> or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit (“good gifts” in Matthew 7:11) to those who ask him!”

- A. This promise was not given to everyone
- B. This promise contains a **CONDITION**
- C. Maybe God IS answering your prayer, but He’s saying “No” or “Not yet. It’s not the right time”

**Drawing Near to God on Behalf of...**

**THE NATIONS** - That God would continue gathering to Himself a redeemed people from every people group who will worship The Lamb!

**ISRAEL** – That God would protect His specially-chosen people, deliver them from their enemies, give Jerusalem peace, and fulfill all of His promises to them in His perfect time.

**GOD’S PERSECUTED PEOPLE EVERYWHERE** – That God would strengthen the faith of His oppressed people everywhere, and embolden them to stand strong and “love not their lives unto death” for His glory.

**OUR NATION** – That God’s will would prevail in the presidential election of 2016, that He would have mercy on the U.S. and give us the wise and godly leader we need, but don’t deserve—someone who fears wickedness, and sees themselves first and foremost as the Lord’s servant.

**OUR CITY** – That God would bless our city with peace and stir up all of His churches to faithfully declare and demonstrate the Gospel of Jesus to their neighbors, loving them and seeking the welfare of the city.

**OUR CHURCH** – That God would protect us from the evil one, keep us laser-focused on The Main Thing, grant us health and growth as He sees fit, and lead us to His next location for a new gospel-centered congregation to be planted.

**OUR FAMILIES** – That God would give parents His vision for discipling their children deeper into the Gospel, and that families would grow together and thrive in every way.

**LOST LOVED ONES** – That God would show up and ambush our lost family members and friends, orchestrating circumstances to wake them up and capture their attention, showing them the emptiness of worldly pleasures and giving them a fresh vision of Christ and His all-sufficiency and glory. May 2016 be the year of their conversion!