

Luke 11:5-13
March 19, 2023

- **Prayer Framework**
 - a. **Our prayers should be Centered on God** - setting our minds and heart on hallowing, honoring or glorifying him, desiring first and foremost God's kingdom to be built.
 - b. **Our prayers show our need & dependence on God** - Recognize our complete need for him.
 - c. **Our prayers seek the forgiveness of God** - Need for our sins to be forgiven.
 - d. **Our prayers seek the power of God** - to forgive others and to not be led into temptation.
- If this is not you, have hope, the disciples needed to be taught and so do we.

Big idea: God Invites His Children to Pray

1. **God delights in his children and invites us to be near v. 5-8**
 - a. He also said to them, "suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him at midnight and says to him, Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I don't have anything to offer him. Then he (the friend) will answer from inside and say, don't bother me! The door is already locked and my children and I have gone to bed. I can't get up to give you anything. I tell you even though he won't get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his friend's shameless boldness, he will get up and give him as much as he needs."
 - b. **We are:**
 - i. **Limited in our capacity** - physical, emotional capacity.
 - ii. **Struggle to be consistent** - know what we should do but struggle to live it out.
 1. Frank Stern, rabbi and author says "*Hospitality was considered a sacred duty in the Jewish community-even when the visitor was a stranger. In this case, the visitor was a friend. It was unthinkable that the neighbor would refuse this request. Even if it meant rising off the straw mat on which husband, wife, and children slept huddled together, unlocking the creaky latch, opening the door, and waking the children, the neighbor would comply.*"
 - c. **God is:**
 - i. **All knowing and all powerful:**
 1. Psalm 147:5 "*Our Lord is great, vast in power; his understanding is infinite.*"

2. Hebrews 1:3 *"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact expression of his nature, sustaining all things by his powerful word."*
- ii. **Consistent and Invitational:**
 1. Hebrews 13:8 *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."*
 2. Isaiah 1:18 *"Come, let's settle this, says the Lord. Though your sins are scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are crimson red, they will be like wool."*
 3. Matt. 11:28 *"Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*
- d. To sum it, God delights in his children and invites you and me to be near.

2. Children of God pray with shameless boldness v. 8-10.

- a. "I tell you, even those he won't get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his friend's shameless boldness, he will get up and give him as much as he needs. So I say to you, ask and it will be given to you. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."
- b. **Various Translations:** Some different translations have: NIV - shameless audacity, NLT - shameless persistence and even the ESV - impudence.
 - i. Francois Bovon - new testament scholar, in his commentary defines the shameless boldness as *"something of a courage without fear and a legitimate stubbornness"*
- c. **Safe & Secure Environment:**
- d. **See God for Who He Is:**
 - i. Hebrews 4:16 tells us that *"We approach the throne of grace with boldness in our time of need"*
- e. **Knocking on the Cross:**
- f. **Invitation to Knock on the Cross:**
- g. **Mature Brothers and Sisters in Prayer:**

3. God gives good gifts to those who pray v. 10-12

- a. *"For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?"*
- b. Two verses that I think sum up this section are **James 1:17** *"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who does not change like shifting shadows"* and **Romans 8:26** *"In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings."*

Last Point

4. We pray persistently for the Holy Spirit v. 13

- a. *“How much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?”*
- b. **Praying by the Holy Spirit:**
- c. **What are we asking for in the Holy Spirit?**
 - i. We’re asking to pour out his love - **Romans 5:5** *“God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit”*
 - ii. We’re asking to remind and teach us his truth - **John 14:26** *“will teach you all things and remind you everything I have told you.”*
 - iii. We’re asking to be in God’s presence - **Ephesians 2:18** *“through him we both have access in one spirit to the Father.”*
 - iv. We’re asking for people to be saved - **Romans 8:11** *“then he who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through his Spirit who lives in you.”*
 - v. We’re asking to break strongholds of sin - **Galatians 5:16** *“walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh.”*
 - vi. We’re asking to fill us with joy - **1 Peter 1:8** *“you have not seen him, but you love him; though not seeing him now, you believe in him, and you rejoice with inexpressible and glorious joy.”*
 - vii. We’re asking for the worship of God to take place - **Phil. 3:3** *“worship by the Spirit of God.”*
 - viii. We’re asking for the spiritual gifts - **1 Cor. 12**
- d. John Piper says “prevailing prayer is the pathway to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. And lest you think God is distant from you, and inattentive to you when the Spirit tarries, listen to this encouragement. When you prevail in prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, more is happening in your life through this prevailing prayer than you would ever imagine.”

Application

1. Imagine all the amazing things the Holy Spirit can accomplish as we and our church boldly persevere in prayer. What a more fully realized kingdom of God could be like!
2. Few resources online.
 - a. PRAY Guide
 - b. How to Pray book by R.A Torrey.
3. Attend our Monday night prayer.