



The Master's Teaching (Luke 11-12)

Luke 11:1-13

It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, when He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples." ² And He said to them, "When you pray, say:

'Father, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And do not lead us into temptation.'"

⁵ And He 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, ⁶ because a friend of mine has come to me from a journey and I have nothing to serve him'; ⁷ and from inside he answers and says, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you *anything*.' ⁸ I tell you, even if he will not get up and give him *anything just* because he is his friend, yet because of his shameless persistence he will get up and give him as much 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. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, it will be opened. ¹¹Now which one of you fathers will his son ask for a fish, and instead of a fish, he will give him a snake? ¹²Or he will even ask for an egg, *and his father* will give him a scorpion? ¹³So if you, *despite* 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?”

Praying like Jesus (Luke 11:1-4)

I. Why Pray?

- 1. Because Jesus modeled a life of prayer**
- 2. Because godly people are people of prayer**

“We can never expect to grow in the likeness of our Lord unless we follow His example and give more time to communion with the Father. A revival of real praying would produce a spiritual revolution. Every preacher who does not make prayer a mighty factor in his own life and ministry is weak as a factor in God's work and is powerless to project God's cause in this world." The goal of prayer is the ear of God, a goal that can only be reached by patient and continued and continuous waiting upon Him, pouring out our heart to Him and permitting Him to speak to us. Only by so doing can we expect to know Him, and as we come to know Him better we shall spend more time in His presence and find that presence a constant and ever-increasing delight.” - **E. M. Bounds**

“There is no power like that of prevailing prayer - of Abraham pleading for Sodom, Jacob wrestling in the stillness of the night, Moses standing in the breach, Hannah intoxicated with sorrow, David heartbroken with remorse and grief, Jesus in sweat and blood. Add to this list from the records of the church your personal observation and experience, and always there is cost of passion unto blood. Such prayer prevails. It turns ordinary mortals into men of power. It brings power. It brings fire. It brings rain. It brings life. It brings God.” “The prayer that prevails is not the work of lips and fingertips. It is the cry of a broken heart and the travail of a stricken soul.” The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing

from prayerless studies, prayerless work and prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray. - **Samuel Chadwick**

If the spiritual life be healthy, under the full power of the Holy Spirit, praying without ceasing will be natural. A full measure of the Word and prayer each day gives a healthy and powerful life. Beware in your prayers, above everything else, of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do. Expect unexpected things 'above all that we ask or think. May God open our eyes to see what the holy ministry of intercession is, to which, as His royal priesthood, we have been set apart. May He give us a large and strong heart to believe what mighty influence our prayers can exert. And may all fear as to our being able to fulfill our vocation vanish as we see Jesus, living ever to pray, living in us to pray, and standing surety for our prayer life. One thing is sure: The Lord wants us to believe most certainly that asking, seeking, and knocking cannot be in vain. Receiving an answer, finding God, and the opening of His heart and home are the certain fruits of prayer. Prayer is reaching out after the unseen; fasting is letting go of all that is seen and temporal. Fasting helps express, deepen, confirm the resolution that we are ready to sacrifice anything, even ourselves to attain what we seek for the kingdom of God. Time spent in prayer will yield more than that given to work. Prayer alone gives work its worth and its success. Prayer opens the way for God Himself to do His work in us and through us. Let our chief work as God's messengers be intercession; in it we secure the presence and power of God to go with us.- **Andrew Murray**

I live in the spirit of prayer. I pray as I walk about, when I lie down and when I rise up. And the answers are always coming. Never give up praying until the answer comes. Here is the great secret of success. Work with all your might; but trust not in the least in your work. Pray with all your might for the blessing of God; but work, at the same time, with all diligence, with all patience, with all perseverance. Pray then, and work. Work and pray. And still again pray, and then work. And so on all the days of your life. The result will surely be, abundant blessing. Whether you see much fruit or little fruit, such kind of service will be blessed. It is not enough to begin to pray, nor to pray aright; nor is it enough to continue for a time to pray; but we

must patiently, believingly, continue in prayer until we obtain an answer; and further we have not only to continue in prayer unto the end, but we have also to believe that God does hear us, and will answer our prayers. Most frequently we fail in not continuing in prayer until the blessing is obtained, and in not expecting the blessing. God delights to increase the faith of His children. We ought, instead of wanting no trials before victory, no exercise for patience, to be willing to take them from God's hands as a means. Trials, obstacles, difficulties and sometimes defeats, are the very food of faith. Only a life of prayer and meditation will render a vessel ready for the Master's use. **George Mueller**

II. How should we pray?

- 1. God answers prayers that prioritize His name and kingdom**
- 2. God answers prayers that are practical to our physical and spiritual needs**
- 3. God answers prayers that are asked with humble authority**