

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT PRAYER

Luke 11; 18



One day, Jesus' disciples saw that He was praying. When Jesus finished, one of His disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray." Jesus said, "Whenever you pray, say this: 'Father, Your name be honored as holy. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone in debt to us. And do not bring us into temptation.'" Jesus also said to them, "Imagine if you were to go to one of your friends at midnight and say, 'Friend, loan me three loaves of bread.' That man would answer from inside and say, 'Don't bother me! It's too late. I've already gone to bed.'"

"Yet in boldness, if you were to keep knocking on the door, the man would eventually get up and give you what you were asking for! 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." Jesus also said, "If a son asks for a fish, would a good father give him a snake? If a son asks for an egg, will a good father give him a scorpion? How much more will our heavenly Father give us the Holy Spirit when we ask."

Sometime later, Jesus told them a parable about praying and not giving up. He said, "There once was an unkind judge, and a widow kept

coming to him over and over, saying, 'Give me justice! Do what is right!' Eventually, that judge gave in and did what the widow was asking for, because she wore him down by asking over and over. "If this evil judge will finally do what is right, how much more will God grant justice to His people when they cry out to Him day and night!"

Jesus also told another parable about prayer: "Two men went up to the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee was standing and praying like this: 'God, I thank You that I'm not like greedy and sinful people like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I give money to God.' "But the tax collector just kept saying, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner!' "I tell you," said Jesus, "only the tax collector went to his house justified. Everyone who lifts himself up will be humbled, and everyone who humbles himself will be lifted up."

Christ Connection: Jesus taught people to keep praying. God is a good Father who will give His people what they need. The most important prayer we can pray is to tell God we have sinned and ask for His forgiveness. Jesus died on the cross and rose again so sinners can be made right with God.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Read the statements. For each statement, write T for true or F for false.

- ___ Jesus said we are interrupting God's important work when we pray.
- ___ Jesus said we should pray to God with boldness, knowing He listens.
- ___ Jesus said to give up praying for something if it's been a long time.
- ___ Jesus said that God will grant justice to His people when they cry out to Him.
- ___ Jesus said to show off and use big words when we pray.
- ___ God is a loving Father who gives us what we need.
- ___ We should pray and not give up.
- ___ Jesus died on the cross and rose again so sinners can be made right with God.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What did Jesus want the disciples to learn about prayer?

GOSPEL DISCUSSION

The most important prayer we can ever pray is to tell God we have sinned and ask Him to save us. If you would like to know more about trusting Jesus as your Savior, your parents or one of the church leaders would like to share more with you.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

» Why should we keep praying, even when we don't see an answer?

» What kind of things should we pray about?

» Why is it important to pray with humility?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus taught people to keep praying. God is a good Father who will give His people what they need. The most important prayer we can pray is to tell God we have sinned and ask for His forgiveness. Jesus died on the cross and rose again so sinners can be made right with God.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Jeremiah 29:12-13 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God that He hears us when we pray and cares for us.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

☐ Matthew 6:9-13

☐ Matthew 6:6-7

☐ Philippians 4:6

☐ 1 Thessalonians 5:17

☐ James 5:16

☐ Jeremiah 29:12