



The Gospel of Luke

*“So That You May Know the Certainty of
the Things You Have Been Taught”*

Group Discussion

What's the best gift your father ever gave you?

Luke 11:1-13 (NIV)

1 One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

2 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 Forgive **us** our sins, for **we** also forgive **everyone** who sins against **us**.
And lead **us** not into temptation. ' "

5 Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,

6 because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.'

7 "Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.'

8 I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness 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 the door will be opened to you.

10 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

11 "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead?

12 Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?

13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Prayer in the New Community

- Returning to the theme of “new community” we’ve seen so many times in Luke, most recently in the parable of the Good Samaritan and how Jesus treats Mary and Martha
- Jesus’s disciples, the beginning of the new community, need a new prayer
- Hallmarks of this prayer are submission and dependence

THE LORD'S PRAYER
FREAKS
ME OUT.

WHAT?

FORGIVE US AS WE
FORGIVE OTHERS?
WHAT IF I'M NOT
FORGIVING?
GOD JUST CUTS
ME OFF?

PERHAPS YOU
HAVEN'T
REALIZED THE
DEPTH OF
GOD'S FORGIVENESS
FOR YOU.

OH SURE!
IT'S ALWAYS
MY FAULT!



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LUKE 11:1-13

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ἄμαρτία and γάρ

- v. 4- “Forgive us our **sins**, **for** we also forgive everyone who sins against us”
- cf. Matt. 6:12 “Forgive us our **debts**, **as** we also have forgiven our debtors”





Cultural Context of the Parable

- Food wasn't readily available and was prepared daily because preservatives weren't available
- Culture put a high premium on hospitality—guests had the right to a good host who would provide for their needs
- Host who receives late-night guest has to choose- be rude to his guest or be rude to his neighbor to seek food for his guest
- Most homes only had 1 sleeping room, so waking the neighbor meant waking the whole family

Why Does Jesus Tell the Parable?

- Jesus uses the parable to provide a lesson on the boldness of prayer
 - ἀναίδεια (anaideia) = “shameless boldness” (v. 8)
 - Friend’s shameless boldness is what drives the neighbor to respond
 - This kind of prayer has gall; nothing will stop such a request from being set before God
- What does that look like for us?
 - Ask, seek, knock

ASK. SEEK. KNOCK.

it will be given.

you will find.

the door will open to you.

For everyone who asks receives; who seeks finds;
who knocks, the door will be opened.

Luke 11:9-10

What response should we expect from God?

- Response is still God's choice, but the door is open for the request
- v. 10- Jesus indicates God's openness to receive such bold petitions
- These aren't blank check promises that God will give us anything we want but promises that our requests for our spiritual welfare will be heard

Putting It into Practice

- Give us each day our daily bread
- Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us
- Lead us not into temptation