

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



*glimpses
of glory*

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MUSIC: RITA BAIRD

DATE: SEPTEMBER 03, 2023

Approach Prayer as a Persistent Conversation with a Trustworthy and Generous Father Luke 11:1-13

Jesus's disciples may have noticed his prayer life...

1. ...was a constant part of his ministry from Day 1. (Luke 3:21)
2. ...was not a public performance. (Luke 5:16)
3. ...involved persistently seeking guidance. (Luke 6:12)
4. ...was filled with joy and gratitude to a wise and generous Father. (Luke 10:21)

Praying like Jesus means talking to a Father who...

1. ...is perfectly good, trustworthy and just.
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." **2** And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.
2. ...responds to and provides for our physical and spiritual needs.
Luke 11:3 Give us each day our daily bread, **4** and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation."
3. ...generously and willingly provides for those who ask of him.
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, **6** for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; **7** 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'? **8** 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. **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. **10** For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

4. ...gives supremely good gifts, including his own life-giving presence.

Luke 11:11 What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; **12** or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? **13** 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 to those who ask him!"

Do we still need to ask the Father for the Spirit today?

Jesus promised he would ask the Father to give the Spirit to his kingdom people.

John 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. **16** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, **17** even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Following his enthronement, the Holy Spirit is poured out uniting those who give Jesus their loyalty. (See also Acts 2:33.)

Ephesians 1:13-14 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Reflection/Discussion

1. How do you view your Heavenly Father? Do you talk to him as if he knows you, cares about you, and is glad to hear what's on your mind?
2. How might an outside observer describe your prayer life - a) transactions characterized by disappointment and low expectations OR b) conversations developing your relationship with your Father, enjoying his love, and learning to walk with him? How does Jesus' teaching address your concerns and encourage you to ask with "impudence"?
3. When will you meet with your Father this week? What will you talk about? What will you want to hear from him?

SONGS

"JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE"

"O PRAISE HIM"

"BE THOU MY VISION (O GOD)"

"10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)"

Altamont Music Pastor: Shawn Hoelsch (shawn@vbc.online)

Behold Podcast: vbc.online/behold

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 27,774.06
WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,985.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$1,148,409.34
Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$1,294,475.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:
(Last Entry 08/30) \$ 90,258.42

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