

Teach Us to Pray!

Luke 11:1-8

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Living in the technological, communicative world
- Help for those “left behind” on the digital highway
- Some people have never learned to pray. Not part of their upbringing

Teach Us to Pray!

A. The PRESENTER; Jesus Christ

- Luke 11:1-- *“Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.”*
1. As the “Son of God”, knows perfectly the process of prayer.
 2. As the “son of man”, he prayed
 - a. At every major crisis point in life
 - b. Often spent time alone with his Father
 - Luke 6:12-- *“it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.”*
 - Luke 5:16-- *“He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.”*
 - c. Prayed in the presence of his disciples—Luke 11:1
 - d. Jesus lived in dependence upon the Spirit of God and His heavenly Father.
 - Hebrews 5:7-8-- *“in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”*

B. The PRESENTATION: Jesus’ Seminar on Prayer

1. The PROTOTYPE

- Luke 11:2-4-- *“So He said to them, “When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”*
- a. *Is it a prayer to be repeated or a prayer to use as a pattern?*
 - Matthew 6:9-- *“In this manner, therefore, pray.”*
 - Matthew 6:7-- *“when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.”*
 - b. **Lessons from the Prototype**
 - 1) **Prayer is for God’s children only**
 - a) God is the Father of all mankind through creation
 - Malachi 2:10-- *“Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us?”*
 - b) But God is not the Father of all spiritually.
 - John 8:44a-- *“You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.”*
 - c) Satan can counterfeit answering prayer-- 2 Corinthians 11:4

d) Only those who personally trust in Jesus can call God their Father. John 1:12; Romans 8:15

2) **Prayer is to be balanced between praise and petitions.**

a) **Praise**

- Luke 11:2-- *"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."*
- (1) **"hallowed by your name"**
 - Ezekiel 38:23-- *"Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD."*
- (2) **"your kingdom come"**

b) **Petitions**

(1) **For Physical, material needs**

- Luke 11:3-- *"Give us day by day our daily bread."*
- Psalm 145:15-16-- *"The eyes of all look expectantly to You, and You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing."*
- Deuteronomy 8:3-- *"He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD."*

(2) **For Spiritual needs**

- Luke 11:4a -- *"And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us."*
- 1 John 1:9-- *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

(3) **For Moral needs**

- Luke 11:4b-- *"And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."*
- James 1:13-- *"Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone."*
- 1 Corinthians 10:13-- *"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."*

3) **Prayer is an expression of our dependence on God!**

2. **The PARABLE of the Nervy Neighbor**

- Luke 11:5-8-- *"And He said to them, 'Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'? I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs.'"*
- a. Cultural background
- b. **Meaning of "perseverance" as "shamelessly bold"**
- c. **Prayer is an expression of our desperateness before God!**
 - Hebrews 4:16-- *"come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."*