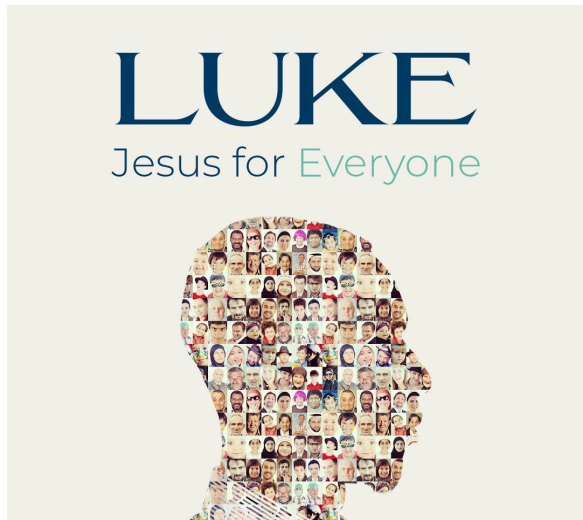


LUKE: PRAYER FOR EVERYONE

July 27, 2025

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Luke 11:1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.'

²He 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 forgive everyone
indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of
trial.*

⁵ And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set

before him." ⁷And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence, he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ 'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for* a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will you give a scorpion? ¹³If 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!'

REFLECT & DISCUSS

1. Read the passage slowly. Then take a deep breath and read it again. What word, phrase, or image stands out to you?

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2. Where do you imagine this teaching on prayer takes place? What are some reasons you can think of why a student (ie, disciple) of Jesus might ask him how to pray?
3. How did you learn to pray?
4. This is one version of the Lord's Prayer. Have you prayed different versions of this prayer in different worship settings/faith traditions? Are there particular words that resonate most deeply or meaningfully with you?
5. Have you ever prayed with others or for others (while with them)? If so, what have those experiences taught you?
6. We aren't ever told that Jesus leaves the home of Martha, or her presence, from the previous passage (Luke 10:38-42). What if we imagine this teaching on prayer is initiated by Martha, one who also sat at the feet of Jesus (ie, a disciple/student), at a "certain place" *in her home*? How does this teaching respond to her concerns about being overwhelmed by ministering and feeling alone in her work?
7. Jesus lifts up prayer and persistence in his teaching.

He goes on to teach that "ask and you will receive, seek and you will find..." Jesus doesn't say you will receive what you want or you will find what you think you need—or more specifically, Jesus doesn't say you will get exactly what you ask for. So what do you think Jesus means in this teaching?

8. Has prayer ever opened you or taught you something surprising that has stuck with you?
9. What are the ways you pray or the kinds of moments when you make it a point to pray?