

The Gospel of Luke

Invitation to be Reassured

Sunday, November 3, 2013

Luke 11:1-13

I. Introduction

Focus Point: As disciples we pray to our Father for us and our brothers and sisters to have intimacy with him and to see his Kingdom come in power and provision.

The Lord's Prayer is a family prayer! We are praying to our Father, we are praying with our brothers and sisters because we pray 'our Father' and it is a prayer we have learned from our older brother Jesus.

II. Teach Us to Pray (v.1-2)

Jesus teaches them to address God as 'Father' which points to respect for the Father's authoritative rule and his intimacy with his children.

"If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, having God as his father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all. For everything that Christ taught... is summed up in the knowledge of the Fatherhood of God." JI Packer

v.2a – "hallowed be your name."

"Hallowed be your name" means "Make yourself known as the Holy One that you are." It is a prayer for God to display the God-ness of his Godhood." P. Ryken

We are praying that we might have respect and reverence for God that transcends our regard for anyone or anything else.

v.2a – 'Your kingdom come.'

"Christians are called to pray and work for the continual advance of God's kingdom on earth. The presence of God's kingdom in this age refers to the reign of Christ in the hearts and lives of believers and to the reigning of Christ in his body, the church – so that they increasingly reflect his love, obey his laws, honor him, do good for all people, and proclaim the good news of the kingdom." ESV Study Bible

III. Priorities in Prayer (v.3-4)

v.3a – 'Give us each day our daily bread...'

This includes for his disciples all of their physical needs, which the Lord supplies not once for all but by day by day.

v.4a – ‘forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us’

This forgiveness is not our initial salvation but the forgiveness that is needed in maintaining our relationship with God. But asking God’s forgiveness requires us forgiving others.

v.4b – ‘and lead us not into temptation.’

“Consider the difference between a test and a temptation. Every temptation is a kind of test, but not every test is a temptation. Test and temptations have different purposes, and they come from different places. Tests are designed to show what someone can do. Their purpose is positive, which explains why God himself test people, as he tested Abraham (Heb. 11:17). A test is a trial posed by God to prove the strength of our faith. Temptations, on the other hand, are more negative. Their explicit purpose is to entice people to sin, which is why they come from the Evil One. A temptation is a trial posed by Satan, with the wicked hope that we will fail.” P. Ryken

IV. Perseverance and Boldness in Prayer (v.5-13)

v.5-8 – Neighbor and Bread

‘because of his impudence’ – lack of sensitivity to what is proper; shameless boldness

v.9,10 – Ask, Seek Knock

Each one of these verbs teaches a general principle...it is to encourage prayer as a continual way of life.

v.11-13 – Father and His children

Jesus is now pointing to the fact that God is willing to answer prayer. If a son asks his father for food would the father give him a snake? No way!

The disciple of Christ should be bold and diligent in asking God for the things in the prayer above and not just a blank check mentality.

V. Conclusion

Bottom line: Ask...and expect God to answer!