

Community Group Homework Questions

1. In Luke 11:9, Jesus gives us strong encouragement to ask our Father for the things we need. In what ways are we in a position of need before God? What causes us not to see our state of desperate need before God? What can cause us not to ask God for the things we need? What should we do instead?
2. What are some examples of things you may have been fearful to pray about? Why might you be fearful to pray about these things? How should the reality of Luke 11:11–13 cause you not to be fearful to pray about anything? In other words, how does God's good character give you confidence to pray about anything?
3. Whether God answers our prayer immediately, delays the answer to our prayer, or answers our prayer differently than we had prayed, Jesus gives us confidence that God does hear and answer our prayer, and that His answer is always good because He only gives to His people what is good (v. 10–13). What does this reality mean for us when God delays answer to our prayer or answers our prayer in a different way than we had prayed? What should our response be to God's answer to our prayers, whether His answer be just as we asked or different than we asked? In what ways might we be tempted not to respond in the proper way to God's response to our prayers? How should we counsel our own hearts based on Luke 11:10–13 when we don't respond in the proper way to God's response to our prayers?
4. Pastor Bryan stated toward the end of his sermon, "Passivity or a lack of drive, a lack of persistence in the Christian life is fatal." When we get to the point that we don't hunger and thirst after righteousness or when we don't press toward the mark, that is deadly. When we lose our desire for greater levels of intimacy with Christ or greater levels of spiritual maturity, then that is catastrophically disastrous. When we no longer long for God's wisdom, then that is ruinous. When we stop asking, seeking, and knocking, that is fatal. So, in this text Jesus encourages us and exhorts us to pray." What can we do to maintain a strong desire for greater Christlikeness, greater intimacy with God, and greater spiritual maturity? When our desire for these things is lacking, what should we do to gain it back?
5. What are your current habits in the spiritual discipline of prayer? How do you desire your prayer life to change in light of Luke 11:5–13?

Encouragement to Keep Praying

Luke 11:5-13

Series #69

The following are questions designed to facilitate greater learning and deeper understanding of spiritual truths presented in the sermon: **"Encouragement to Keep Praying."** All questions are answered as the sermon is presented. We hope it will be a catalyst to spiritual growth in your life.

1. What is one of the most perplexing aspects of the Christian life?
2. Prayer can be what?
3. Jesus followed His instruction on prayer with what?
4. It's easy to not do what?
5. In Bible times, if you needed bread quickly, what was your only option?
6. What was unique about the sleeping arrangements in the 1st century?
7. The Greek word translated "persistence" describes what?
8. Jesus is encouraging us to be what?
9. Jesus tells us/encourages us/exhorts us to what?
10. Do you allow your limited knowledge about God to deprive you of the privilege of praying?
11. It's easy for us to allow our theology to encourage us to what?
12. Have you allowed your doctrinal views to lead down a path of apathy in your prayer life?

13. Do you believe that prayer changes things?
14. God is way bigger than we comprehend and His ways and workings are what?
15. Jesus encourages us to pray by reminding us of what, related to God?
16. What was a very common food item during the time of Jesus?
17. The point of the passage is to pray about what?
18. When a son asked his father for a fish, his father wouldn't give him what?
19. Are you fearful of praying?
20. When we bring our requests to God our Father, we don't ever have to be concerned about what?
21. When it comes to prayer, it is imperative that we do what?
22. When Jesus affirms that God hears and answers our prayers, He is, in essence, affirming what?
23. Do you doubt the goodness of God when you pray?
24. Jesus takes for granted what truth about the human race?
25. Jesus tells us that even what kind of people give good gifts to their children?
26. The main point is that human fathers, all of whom are sinners in the sight of God, do what?
27. Do you want the Holy Spirit to be stronger or more dominant in your life?
28. When does the Holy Spirit come to indwell us?
29. Do you ever pray for more of the Holy Spirit's fruit in your life?
30. What should you do if you feel defeated in your Christian life?
31. Our Father will give good things to those who do what?
32. Passivity or lack of drive or a lack of persistence in the Christian life is what?
33. Jesus doesn't tell us that we have to figure out what before we pray?
34. Instead of trying to grasp prayer in our own logic, Jesus exhorts us to do what?
35. Are you a person of prayer?
36. How is your prayer life?