

KEEP PRAYING

From the series – 21 DAYS OF PRAYER... DANGEROUS PRAYERS

SUMMARY...

Jesus' life of prayer had a profound impact on his disciples. Despite all of the miracles that they observed Jesus perform, what they wanted to learn most was how to pray like Jesus. They wanted to connect with God like Jesus connected with God. They wanted to know God like Jesus knew God. In response to their request, Jesus gives His disciples an example of prayer and tells them a story about prayer. Both the example and story work in concert to help His disciples, ultimately all of us, to see that the prize of prayer is not answered prayer but being in the presence of God.

CONNECT & LEARN...Discussion Questions

1. What examples of prayer did you observe growing up? What did these observations tell you about prayer? What did they suggest to you about how to approach God?
2. What do you know about the example Jesus set in prayer? Discuss what people know about his prayer habits and the impact of his time in prayer that might have caused the disciples to ask him to teach them about prayer. What was it about Jesus' life of prayer that compelled them to ask Jesus to teach them about prayer?
3. As a GROUP, read [Luke 11:1-8](#).
4. Before looking at Jesus' example of prayer (Luke 11:2-4), focus on the story that Jesus tells (verses 5-8). At first glance, what does this story teach us about prayer? How would this story compel you to keep praying?
5. What is the significance of the "midnight knock" in this story? And how are we to interpret and understand the delayed response of the neighbor? Look closely at [Luke 11:8](#) – what was it that finally compelled the neighbor to meet the need?
6. Why is it so difficult to be 'persistent in prayer?' To best answer this question, re-read Jesus' example of prayer in [Luke 11:2-4](#). Notice these things:
 - i. He begins by saying, "When you pray..." Very subtle, but not to be missed is that Jesus teaches his disciples that prayer is best learned by praying. Why is it easier to read books on prayer or listen to sermons on prayer rather than to just begin praying? Share what have you learned in the past few weeks of prayer: What has kept you from praying? What has encouraged you to pray?
 - ii. In his example of prayer, Jesus asks and answers three questions:
 - i. To whom am I praying?
 - ii. What is the One I'm praying to like?
 - iii. Where is the One I'm praying to?

In looking at Jesus' example of prayer, how would you answer these three questions? And how might these answers keep us in a posture of 'persistent prayer?'

7. Make sure you spend time in prayer, and continue to support people as we grow together in developing prayer rhythms that make an impact on us and those around us.

WHAT'S HAPPENING at GENESIS

Feb. 5th - First Friday (Virtual) 7 – 8:30 pm

Feb. 7th - Chapter One: invite people into the story of GENESIS (this class will meet remotely and is a good step for those who are new or newer to GENESIS)

SERMON ONLINE...

www.genesisjourney.com/sermon/keep-praying/