

Sermon ~ Sunday, January 15, 2023

Text: Luke 11: 1-13

Title: "PRAY, Enduring with JESUS!"

Enduring, that is, abiding, bearing, standing, suffering, tolerating, persevering, *not yielding under* the weight... but getting *through* with JESUS!

Endure, *kartereo*, verb, (kar-ter-eh'-o) means to be steadfast *under*... to bear up under... to remain strong *under*...

Q. When we pray, what can we expect from GOD?

Vs. 1, JESUS disciples caught by *eye* and ear, HIM praying... JESUS is insisting that we pray, for here in, is **The SOURCE**, the strength in living and the *servicing* of GOD!

Vs. 2, JESUS prayed as a SON to HIS FATHER... "FATHER" ... an intimate relationship with GOD in prayer, is JESUS teaching here!

V. 1, John the Baptist taught his disciples to pray... then, a common practice, to instruct others... "LORD, teach us to pray..." Who, are we teaching to pray?

Pray, "Thanking GOD..." So much to be *thankful* for...

*Thank HIM for being "our FATHER," vs. 2... a personal relationship... though a family relationship, it's a 'a child' to a parent relationship. [sometimes I found myself saying, "my Mama in the presence of my siblings] Y'all excused me when I say, "My FATHER in your presence!"

"For as many as received HIM (GOD through JESUS CHRIST), to them gave HE power to become the sons of GOD, even to them that believe on HIS NAME. They are *reborn*—born again!

This is not a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan—this *rebirth* come from GOD." (John 1: 12, 13 KJV/NLT) BUT HE is our FATHER, and we ought "Thank HIM!"

*Thank HIM for Heaven, vs. 2... the spiritual dimension of our new birth... the real world... incorruptible and undefiled and does not fade away. More importantly, Heaven is *where* GOD is! Heaven is *where* JESUS *rules* and *reigns*! Heaven is the believer's home!

*Thank HIM for the privilege to Praise HIM. Praise HIM for HIS NAME... Praise HIM for HIS KINGdom... Praise HIM for *daily resources*—our day-by-day *bread*—*Favor* and not our merits... meeting our need and not our wants. Praise HIM for we can "repent and receive *forgiveness*."

Praise HIM for HIS righteous acts—directing us *from* temptations and *from* evil in disguise!

"PRAY, Enduring with JESUS!"

Church, we *must endure* through PRAYER with JESUS; we *must* be persistent in our praying with JESUS; we *must* never quit... for if we quit praying once after 'nothing' happened, you'll never amount to much, in this teaching of JESUS about PRAYER!

Learn this from JESUS...

*Pray until you get JESUS' answer!

Vs. 5, "...Friend, lend me three loaves..." (a legitimate and earnest request) But note, "the hour—Midnight. Note also, the guest not only need *help*, but he also needed *food*."

“For a friend of mine in his journey is come to **ME**, and I have *nothing* to set before him?”

(Luke 11: 6)

[In John 15: 15, JESUS said to HIS disciples, “Henceforth **I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of **MY FATHER** I have made known to you.”]**

Point: despite the hour—Midnight and the request—help/food, the request was not for himself but the welfare of another—someone else.

Note, “the request was turned down.” “**Trouble ME not: the door is now shut, and MY children are with ME in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.**” (Vs. 7) [If you are praying and got such response, “**Trouble ME not...**” ‘who’ do you think is answering your pray???

Q. What do we learn from **JESUS**?

A. We must be prepared in our praying for times when refusal seems harsh!

[When **GOD** refuses to answer your prayer at the first request, it certainly does not mean **HE** does care! It means **HE** wants to *strengthen* your **FAITH in JESUS!**]

Another, Don’t doubt JESUS hearing you, when there are delays in your praying to HIM!

“**The door is now shut, and MY children are with ME in bed.**” (Vs. 7c) Point: “**KEEP PRAYING!**”

*Another, “**I cannot rise and give thee.**” (Vs. 7d) Point: “**PRAY, Enduring with JESUS!**”*

*Pray until you get JESUS’ answer!

Q. What’s the *motive*? My *motive* is that I (we) know **JESUS!!!**

“**Because of HIS importunity HE will rise and give him...**” (Vs. 8d) ‘*Importunity*,

anaideia (a-nai-dei-a), that is, because **JESUS** is without “shame,” shameless; **HIS purpose** is to carry out **GOD’S purpose** with unembarrassed boldness, in the dignity of *our FAITH in JESUS!*

This is the “*enduring*” [be steadfast *under*... to bear up *under*... to remain strong *under*...]

in prayer that **JESUS** is teaching!

Note, “**HE will rise and give him as many as he needeth.**” (Vs. 8e) The *persistence* and *enduring* in prayer to **JESUS** cause **JESUS** to reconsider the initial request “**...lend me three loaves...**”

(vs. 5e) to “**...as many as he needeth.**”

JESUS teaches us a 3-fold exhortation to pray... Ask ... seek ... knock ... (Vss. 9, 10)

Ask—humble yourself before **HIM!** *Seek*—look for **HIM** and expect **HIM**, **HE** always comes with what we need. (Don’t just go through the motions) *Knock*—when facing a closed door. *Rap, unceremonious pound.* “Prayerlessness is not to be looked upon as an innocent *infirmity*, but as a ‘*sin*’ of the deepest dye.”

Q. When we pray, what can we expect from **GOD**?

A. “If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly **FATHER give** (generously, goodly, graciously) **The HOLY SPIRIT** to them that ask **HIM?**” (Vs. 13)

[**The HOLY SPIRIT** gives wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, presence, fear of **The LORD**, Salvation, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, **SPIRIT-control**, **Power to Witness JESUS CHRIST**, gifts—severely to who **HE Will...**]