

Jesus Teaches About Prayer

Luke 11:1-13

by Don Falkos

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Once when Jesus had just finished praying, one of his disciples said, "Lord, teach us how to pray, like John used to teach his disciples."

Jesus said, "When you pray, pray like this:

Father, help us to honor you.
Come and establish your kingdom.
Give us each day the food we need.
Forgive our sins just as we forgive those who sin against us.
And keep us from being tempted into any wrongdoing.

"Suppose you go to a friend in the middle of the night and say, 'Let me borrow three loaves of bread. A friend of mine has dropped in unexpectedly, and I don't have anything for him to eat.' And suppose your friend answers, 'Don't bother me! The door is already locked. My kids and I are in bed. I can't get up right now to give you anything.'

"He may not get up and give you the bread just because you're his friend. But if you're persistent, if you're bold enough to keep on asking, he will get up and give you as much as you need.

"So I tell you, ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened for you.

"Some of you are fathers. If your son asks you for some fish to eat, will you give him a snake instead? If he asks you for an egg, will you give him a scorpion? Of course not! So, if you, who are sinners, know how to give good things to your children, how much more likely is it that your Heavenly Father will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask?"