When we Pray.....

Luke 11:5-13

Sermon Outline

A. Be Persistent (vs. 5-6):

1. **Said** – Christ interprets for the disciples, after teaching them how to pray, the mindset they must have when they pray. The disciples would face a lot of difficulties after Christ death. Peter, James, and John would experience the Garden of Gethsemane.
   
   a) This was after Christ taught the disciples how to pray.

2. **Have** – “To have” here means a person that is a friend that can be counted on.

3. **Friend** – To say friend Jesus is referencing a person who is loyal and would share their possessions and personal problems whenever necessary. This is like having a best man at a wedding or military comrade who would die for one another. This is the direct object of this part of the story.

4. **Friend** – To be a friend is the objective that Jesus has for His disciples if they abide in Him as He abides in them (Mark 16:14-20; there was a possibility that they would turn from Him). If they do so they would become His friends (John 15:1-17).

5. **Goes to him** – This friend is purposefully going to His friend looking for bread and because the man, who is sleep, is a close friend it did not matter that it was midnight.

6. **For a friend has come** – The same reason the man who is asleep must get up (the person knocking is his good friend) is the same reason the man who is knocking on his door must get help; the person he needs to help is also his friend. This seems to imply that we go to Christ because we care for our other brothers and sisters in Christ.

8. **Said** – The friend who was asleep commanded the friend who was knocking (apparently banging on the door) to once for all stop disturbing his family.

9. **Bother; Labor** – The man who was asleep tells his friend that he must stop creating extreme strain on his family. What the friend who was knocking was doing was only exerting more stress on a family who were already physically exhausted. Most of these communities were farmers and sheep herders.

10. **Bother** – The man who was asleep commanded his friend to stop creating problems for his family.
   
   a) Eastern homes did not have a separate bedroom. Usually the father of the family bolted the door, then unrolled mats on the floor for the children. He and his wife occupied the bed or space nearest the wall. It would have been impossible to reach the outer door without disturbing the children.
11. *I cannot* – Because of his family being asleep (all in one room with the parents against the wall – it is easy for them to hear animals or thieves trying to come in) and the door is like bolted down he truly cannot rise from where he was without disturbing his entire family. This could be Christ trying to tell them that based on His plans for everyone sometimes it causes Christ to decide not to respond to us; like Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane when God said no. God did not say no because He did not love Christ (absolutely not). God said no because He wanted salvation to be offered to all of mankind.

12. *Give you anything* - It is not that he does not want to help his friend it is because of the circumstances he cannot permanently put bread in his friend’s hands.

13. *Tell, speak* – Christ is saying that even though this story should end it cannot because the man knocking is a friend.

14. *Not get up* – The man who was asleep, even though he does not want to get up, must get up because the man knocking was his friend.

15. *Friend* – To be a friend is the objective that Jesus has for His disciples if they abide in Him as He abides in them (Mark 16:14-20; there was a possibility that they would turn from Him). If they do so they would become His friends (John 15:1-17). The friendship dominates everything that must happen. It is the subject of this situation. It has led the man to this particular man’s door and it has cause the man inside the door to respond but it is not enough. God would listen to us (Christ as His right hand; Hebrews 8:1-2) and provide us His Word but at the end of the day we need an answer for this particular issue.

16. *Persistence* – To be persistent is to discard any sensitivity for what is proper so that a person functions shameless. The man who was knocking does not care because his need is greater than being sensitive to his friend’s circumstances.

17. *He will get up* – Because the man’s friend is persistent the man gets up disturbing everyone to do what his friend needs.

18. *Need* – This is a continuous lack of something that is a legitimate need. Meaning it is a need that falls within the structure of God’s Word. It was expected of friends to take care of travelers. It was a mutual courtesy especially since there were very few conveniences that we have today for travel. Restrooms were digging a whole off the beaten path of the road.

**B. Trust God (vs. 9-10):**

1. *I say to you* – Christ continues explaining this story with no plans to stop until it is vividly clear what the mindset must be for the disciples when they pray.

2. *Ask* – Christ commands the disciples to make what He just explained a pattern for their lives. They must go to God as they would go to a friend. They are all equals.

3. *Give* – Because of our friendship with Christ and our shameless persistence God is going to permanently provide for us His gifts.
4. **Seeking** – Christ now commands His disciples to continuously strive to be shamelessly persistent when they come before God. This is very different from the format for prayer used within the Jewish culture.

5. **Will find; Found** – God will bless us to discover, after He has scrutinized our request, what He willing permanently puts in place for us.

6. **Knock** – He commands us to continually with no plans to ever stop knocking, like this man, until God responds.

7. **Open** – What we cannot get to will become available to us like the man who knocked on his friend’s door.

8. **Ask** – For everyone who does not quit coming to God like this friend did to his friend. Demonstrating confidence that because of a friendship God cannot refuse the request.


10. **Seeks, finds** – This person who continuously is shameless persistent habitually discovers answered prayers.

11. **Knocks will be opened** – The person who is continuously persistent is seeking God’s attention habitually gains God’s attention.

**C. Depend on His Gift (vs. 11-13):**

1. **Ask** – If as fathers their son came and made a request because of the relationship the expectation is they would give their attention and respond immediately.

2. **Give** – They would immediately surrender what, as the person in authority what the child needs.

3. **If those who are evil** - The disciples had the potential to make decisions that violate the Word of God especially in comparison to Christ. This is very possible since their sin nature has not been transformed yet.

4. **Know how to give good gifts** – The disciples had a full understanding of how to give gifts that are beneficial to their family. Their gifts expressed how the feel on the inside towards their sons.

5. **Heavenly Father** – An earthly father who has the potential to do evil is no comparison our heavenly Father.

6. **Gives the Holy Spirit** – The Holy Spirit comes as a Helper of Christ (John 14:16-17), Who has a perfect nature, and is the greatest gift that can permanently be provided to man because He is also our intercessor especially in difficult times (Romans 8:26-27).

7. **For those who ask** - Those who continuously go to God and are provided perfect gifts through the ministry of the Holy Spirit are like the man who knocked on his friends door. Because it was his friend he received what he requested (John 15:7).