

Sunday, October 18, 2020

Pastor Jake Magee

The Journey | Prayers that God Answers

Luke 11:5-13



“5 And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, 6 for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; 7 and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? 8 I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. 9 And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 11 What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; 12 or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

- **God Answers the Prayers Of Imperfect People**
- **God Only Answers Some Prayers You Keep Praying**
- **God Answers Every True Prayer**
- **God Often Empowers You To Be The Answer**

“The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.” - James 5:15

Getting Started - (Read Luke 11:5-13)

What's a prayer God recently answered for you? What's a prayer you keep praying?

Digging Deeper

- 1) Recap some of the ideas from our study in verses 1-4.
- 2) Look at verses 5-8.
 - a) Exploring the details of the story, discuss the different reasons why this "friend" was so rude?
 - b) What are some examples of when you've given into people because they pestered you?
 - c) If Jesus point isn't "you need to pester God shamelessly to overcome his reluctance," what's the point?
- 3) This passage suggests that God will not grant some requests you don't keep praying about.
 - a) Where do you see this in our passage?
 - b) Do the words "asking," "seeking" and "knocking" suggest different things?
 - c) How do you know when to stop praying for something (compare this passage with 2 Corinthians 12:7-10)?
 - d) Why do you think God wants us to seek so hard for some things before he grants them?
- 4) Look at verses 11-13. God doesn't always give you what you are praying for because you can't see that it will hurt you. He sees a scorpion when you see a fish. His "no" or "not yet" is the bread you really need! Share with the group a prayer that you are thankful God didn't grant because it wasn't good or the right time? Can you think of any Biblical examples?
- 5) In verse 13 Jesus says that God gives the Holy Spirit to us when we pray for various things.
 - a) We receive the Holy Spirit and are sealed with him when we become Christians (cf. Eph. 1:13; 4:30). What is another way we continue to "receive" God's Holy Spirit after we have Him (Eph. 5:18)?
 - b) On Sunday pastor Jake said this verse might refer to God's empowerment to get an answer to prayer. Can you think of examples from Scripture and everyday life when God empowers people to get their answer?

Putting It Into Practice

Take some time praying for any or all of these areas:

- That you and the members of your group would grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus.
- The salvation of friends and family.
- God's gospel work to flourish in our community through our church.
- The peace and prosperity of our country; especially for the upcoming elections.
- The persecuted church seeking to make Jesus known in the nations.
- Your individual needs.

FBC Ministries this Fall...



Small Groups—

You Need Community & Community Needs You!

www.sheltonfbc.org/smallgroups

Men's Ministry

Mon. | 3:30 pm. Men's Discipleship Group | 2nd & 4th Monday | Rm. 201 with Pastor Jake ,
Begins September 28th. "The Problem of Pain" by C.S. Lewis. **RSVP** fbc@sheltonfbc.org or (360) 426-8461

Tues. | 6:00 pm. Men's Bible Study Fellowship Rm101 + 102 | RSVP to Gerry Zacher (253) 380-5615

Sat. | 7:30 am. Men's Bible Study | Commons Area 2nd & 4th Saturdays, **RSVP** (360) 359-6103

Women's Ministry

Wed | 9:00 am. Women's Bible Study Fellowship On Line | RSVP to Doris Zacher (253) 232-3252
Other opportunities to be decided.

Youth Ministry

- **Mon. | 6:30 pm. HS Youth Group** in C3
- **Wed. | 6:00 pm. MS Youth Group** in C3
- **Thur. | 10 am—2 pm. High School Study Time** - FBC Coffee Bar & Commons Area
- **Sun. | 9:00 am. HS Bible Study** in C3
- **Sun. | 9:00 am. MS Bible Study** Rm. 101

Children's Ministry

- **Sun. | 10:30 am. ZOOM —On Line Sunday School**
- **Sat. | 12 noon Soccer Club** with Jeff Watson at Loop Field

Other Opportunities to be decided.

Senior Adult Ministry

Opportunities to be decided.

FBC Family Updates & Information

Congratulations *to our newly affirmed Elders: Mike Dorcy and Allen Walker*

- ◆ **HS Sunday School—9:00 am in C3 AND MS Sunday School—9:00 am in Rm. 101**
- ◆ **Sunday Services—Sign Up to attend** 9am or 10:30am <http://www.sheltonfbc.org/>
- ◆ **Sunday Morning** Notes & Questions online at: <http://www.sheltonfbc.org/sundaymornings/>
- ◆ **Watch our Live Stream Services** Sundays @ 9:00 and 10:30am <https://www.facebook.com/sheltonfbc/>
Scroll down the page to see the Livestream. Comment to let us know you're with us!
- ◆ **Watch our RECORDED Service on Vimeo:** <https://vimeo.com/user104570771>
click on the **+FOLLOW** in the right hand corner to get notices of our postings.
- ◆ **Giving:** Our continued act of worship. Thank you for your generosity and sacrificial giving. Give Online www.sheltonfbc.org, use Bill Pay from your bank, or send your Checks to FBC, 428 W. Cota St., Shelton WA. 98584