



**Week 11**

**Series:** *Equipped*

**Sermon Title:** Audacious Prayers

**Sermon Text:** Luke 11:1-13

**Group Week of:** July 7, 2024

**Sermon Date:** July 14, 2024

<b>Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies</b>	
<b>Day 1</b>	The Persistent Widow – Luke 18:1-8
<b>Day 2</b>	The Lord’s Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13
<b>Day 3</b>	Ask and Don’t Receive – James 4:1-4
<b>Day 4</b>	Righteous Prayers – James 5:13-18
<b>Day 5</b>	God Reveals Himself – Jer 29:11-14

**The Text:** Luke 11:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.’ <sup>7</sup>And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

<sup>9</sup>“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

### **Textual Questions**

- 1) What is (are) the main lesson(s) you see Jesus giving to His disciples (and us) through this text?
- 2) Explain “shameless audacity” in your own words.
- 3) Does Jesus imply that God is annoyed by our requests or coerced into action?

## **Discussion Guide Questions**

- 1) Describe your prayer life below. Here are some questions to help you think through this answer: *What do you pray about? When do you pray? Who do you pray with? What is your attitude in prayer?*
  
- 2) Before verses 5-10, Jesus provides the shorter form of the Lord's Prayer in verses 1-4. Briefly review that prayer and discuss with your life group what the Lord's prayer teaches us about prayer. Make sure to cite key verses and explain their meaning and importance.
  
- 3) The Lord's Prayer does not emphasize boldness, persistence, or shameless audacity, so it makes sense that Jesus would provide this additional lesson. However, it's not clear why God would want us to pray with these attitudes. Discuss with your life group why God would rather we pray with boldness, persistence, and shameless audacity than with timidity, indifference, or cowardice.
  
- 4) Notice that the man seeks bread, not to fill his own stomach but the stomach of his guest. How does that affect the boldness with which we can go to the Lord?
  
- 5) What are some prayers you are afraid to be bold with? Why is that? Are of any those prayers ones that you should be bold with?
  
- 6) Jesus wants us to be so confident in God's willingness to answer prayers that He guarantees that those who ask, seek, and knock will receive, find, and have the door opened. How does your heart respond to that promise? Why?
  
- 7) In the following verses (11-13), we learn that God will give only good gifts to His children. Have you ever prayed for what you thought was good and God gave you something you thought was bad instead? How does this principle apply to areas where you felt God has not answered your prayers?
  
- 8) The best thing we can ask God for is more of Himself (see verse 13). So often though, this is not what we are asking for. Spend some time searching your own heart for what your desires are, and surrender those things to the Lord. Ask God to give you more of Himself with persistence and boldness this week, and report back on what happened to your life group.