Sermon Notes for September 3, 2017

Lord, Teach Us to Pray


Introduction

One of the things we notice in Luke’s gospel is how often Jesus prayed.

- At his baptism – Luke 3:21
- In the wilderness – 4:1-13
- Before calling the first disciples – 4:42
- Before choosing the Twelve – 6:12
- Before Peter’s confession – 9:18
- Before going to Jerusalem – 9:28
- Before teaching about prayer – 11:1
- Before the going to the cross – 23:39-46

They saw the power and priority of prayer in Jesus’ life and asked, Lord, teach us to pray.

If we desire to have daily fellowship with God, we must pray.

I. Pray as Jesus taught us to pray. Verses 1-4

The Lord’s Prayer

- Is a model prayer.
- Is intended to be repeated.
- Is a corporate prayer.

When you pray, say:

Father – a term of intimacy and respect.

Hallowed be your name – Let your name be regarded as holy.

Your kingdom come – a prayer for the return of Christ.

Give us each day our daily bread – a prayer for our daily needs.

Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us – It is about our relationship with God and with others. In Scripture, the two are connected.

And lead us not into temptation – a prayer for spiritual strength.

How closely do our prayers match this pattern?
II. Pray with boldness (shameless). Verses 5-8

Hospitality was a cultural expectation.

God is not a reluctant giver.

God rewards our persistence. In fact, what we persist in praying for is an indication of what is important to us.

What are we praying for? What do we value?

III. Pray with confidence. Verses 9-13

Ask and keep on asking, seek and keep on seeking, knock and keep on knocking and you will receive, you will find and the door will be opened.

Why? Because our Father in heaven loves us even more than our earthly fathers do.

God longs to give us his best. Here Luke points to the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion:

When you pray,

- Follow Jesus’ example – pray as he taught us to pray.
- Pray with boldness.
- Pray with confidence.

The Lord’s Prayer