

This Study Guide is based on a sermon by Dr. Joshua Mack. You will find the link to the sermon here.

<http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?sid=44171110331>

Luke 11:5-13

Swahili

5Akawaambia, Ni nani kwenu aliye na rafiki, akamwendea usiku wa manane, na kumwambia, Rafiki yangu, nikopeshe mikate mitatu, 6kwa sababu rafiki yangu amefika kwangu, atoka safarini, nami sina kitu cha kuweka mbele yake; 7na yule wa ndani amjibu akisema, Usinitaabishe; mlango umekwisha fungwa, nasi tumelala kitandani mimi na watoto wangu; siwezi kuondoka nikupe? 8Nawaambia ya kwamba, ijapokuwa haondoki ampe kwa kuwa ni rafiki yake, lakini kwa vile asivyoacha kumwomba, ataondoka na kumpa kadiri ya haja yake. 9Nami nawaambia, Ombeni, nanyi mtapewa; tafuteni, nanyi mtaona; bisheni, nanyi mtafunguliwa. 10Kwa kuwa kila aombaye hupokea; naye atafutaye huona; naye abishaye atafunguliwa. 11Maana ni yupi kwenu aliye baba, ambaye mwanawe akimwomba mkate, atampa jiwe au samaki, badala ya samaki atampa nyoka? 12Au akimwomba yai, atampa nge? 13Basi, ikiwa ninyi mlio waovu mnajua kuwapa watoto wenu vipawa vyema, je! Baba aliye mbinguni hatazidi sana kuwapa Roho Mtakatifu hao wamwombao?

Zulu

5Wathi kubo: “Ngumuphi kini oyakuba nomhlobo, aye kuye phakathi kobusuku, athi kuye: ‘Mhlobo, ngitsheleke izinkwa zibe zintathu, 6ngokuba kufike kimi umhlobo wami evela ekuhambeni, kepha anginanto engingayibeka phambi kwakhe;’ 7yena-ke ophakathi aphenyule athi: ‘Ungangihluphi; sekuvaliwe emnyango, nabantwana bami balele kanye nami; anginakuvuka, ngikunike,’ na? 8Ngithi kini: Noma engazukuvuka amnike ngokuba engumhlobo wakhe, nokho ngenxa yokukhongisisa kwakhe uyakuvuka amnike konke akudingayo. “Ngithi kini: Celani, niyakuphiwa; funani, niyakufumana; ngqongqothani, niyakuvulelwa. 10Ngokuba yilowo nalowo ocelayo uyamukeliswa, nofunayo uyafumana, nongqongqothayo uyakuvulelwa. 11“Ngumuphi kini onguyise, oyakuthi nxa indodana icela inhlanzi, ayinike inyoka esikhundleni senhlanzi; 12uma icela iqanda, ayinike ufezela, na? 13Ngakho-ke uma nina eningababi nikwazi ukubapha abantwana benu izipho ezinhle, kakhulu kangakanani uYihlo osezulwini uzakubapha abacela kuye uMoya oNgcwele.”

Shona

5Ipapo akati kwavari, “Kana mumwe wenyu ane shamwari, uye akaenda kwaari pakati pousiku akati, ‘Shamwari, ndikweretesewo zvingwa

zvitatu, 6nokuti shamwari yangu iri parwendo yasvika kwangu, uye ini handina chandingamupa.’ 7“Ipapo uya ari mukati akati, ‘Rega kundinetsa. Mukova wangu watopfigwa, uye vana vangu neni tavata. Handikwanisi kumuka kuti ndikupe kana chinhu.’ 8Ndinokuudzai, kuti kunyange asingazomuki kuti amupe chingwa nokuda kwokuti ishamwari yake, asi nokuda kwokushinga kwomunhu uyu, achamuka agomupa zvole zvaanoda. 9“Saka ndinoti kwamuri: Kumbirai uye muchapiwa, tsvakai uye muchawana; gogodzai uye muchazarurirwa mukova. 10Nokuti ani naani anokumbira achapiwa; anotsvaka achawana; anogogodza, achazarurirwa mukova. 11“Ndiani pakati penyu vanababa, angati, kana mwanakomana wake amukumbira hove, omupa nyoka pachinzvimbo chehove? 12Kana kuti akakumbira zai, angamupa chinyavada here? 13Zvino kana imi, kunyange makaipa zvenyu, muchiziva kupa zvipo zvakana kuvana venyu, Baba venyu vari kudenga vachapa zvikuru sei Mweya Mutsvene kuna vanomukumbira!”

Afrikaans

5Verder sê Hy vir hulle: “Sê nou een van julle het 'n vriend, en jy gaan in die middel van die nag na hom toe en jy vra: ‘Vriend, leen my bietjie drie brode, 6want 'n vriend van my wat op reis is, het by my aangekom, en ek het niks om vir hom voor te sit nie.’ 7En die ander antwoord van binne af: ‘Moet my nie lastig val nie! Die deur is al gesluit, en ek en my kinders is al in die bed. Ek kan nie opstaan om dit vir jou te gee nie ...’ 8Ek sê vir julle: Al sou hy nie opstaan en dit vir hom gee omdat hy sy vriend is nie, sal hy tog opstaan en hom alles gee wat hy nodig het, omdat hy hom nie skaam om aan te hou vra nie. 9“Ek sê vir julle: Vra, en vir julle sal gegee word. Soek, en julle sal kry. Klop, en vir julle sal oopgemaak word. 10Elkeen wat vra, ontvang, en elkeen wat soek, kry; en vir elkeen wat klop, sal oopgemaak word. 11Is daar 'n pa onder julle wat as sy seun vir hom 'n vis vra, vir hom 'n slang sal gee in plaas van die vis? In sommige manuskripte lees vers 11 as volg: “Is daar 'n pa onder julle wat as sy seun vir hom brood vra, vir hom 'n klip sal gee, of 'n vis vra en dan vir hom 'n slang gee in plaas van 'n vis?” 12 Of as hy 'n eier vra, vir hom 'n skerpioen sal gee? 13As julle wat sleg is, dan weet om vir julle kinders goeie dinge te gee – die Vader in die hemel nog baie meer! Hy sal die Heilige Gees gee vir dié wat vra.”

Sermon Summary:

Over the past several weeks, we have been looking at what Jesus teaches about prayer. After teaching us what to pray in verses 2-4, Jesus shows us why we should go to God boldly, knowing He wants to listen and answer, when we ask for help.

Basic Discussion Questions:

1. This past Sunday we talked about praying confidently. What do you think it means to pray confidently?
2. If you are going to pray confidently, it's important you pray biblically.

- a. As you think about the Bible, what are some examples of the kinds of prayers, you shouldn't be confident about? (Hint: James 1:6-8 and James 4:3)
 - b. What are some examples of the kinds of prayer requests, you should be confident about?
 - c. Specifically, look at the Lord's prayer. What prayer requests should be praying according to Jesus.
3. Before we even talk about praying confidently, I want us just to recognize another problem first. One thing you notice in the Lord's prayer is the word our. We are not just praying for ourselves, we are praying for each other. I think, on problem we often have in prayer is that we pray so selfishly. Read the following quote and explain what you think the author means:

"It seems to me that there is no hope for revival until you and I, and all of us, have reached the stage in which we begin to forget ourselves a little, and to be concerned for the Church, for God's body, his people here on earth. So many of our prayers are subjective and self-centered. We have our problems and difficulties, and by the time that we have finished with them, we are tired and exhausted and we do not pray for the Church. My blessing, my need, my this, my that. Now, I am not being hard and unkind, God has promised to deal with our problems. But where does the Church come into our prayers and intercessions? Do we go beyond ourselves and our families? We stand before the world and we say the only hope for the world is Christianity. We say the Church, and the Church alone, has the message that is needed. We see the problems of society, they are shouting at us and they are increasing week by week. And we know that this is the only answer. Very well, then, if we know that and if we believe that, let me ask you in the name of God, how often do you pray that the Church may have power to preach this, in such a manner that all these citadels that are raising themselves against God shall be razed to the ground and shall be flattened in his holy presence? How much time do you give to praying that the preachers of the gospel may be endowed with the power of the Holy Ghost? Are you interceding about this? Are you concerned about it?"

4. Ok. Now that we've talked a little about what we should be praying for. Let's read Luke 11:5-13. What assurance does Jesus give us about prayer here?
5. This assurance is the key to the whole passage. Jesus wants us to have confidence when we pray. Now, let's think about why we need assurance about that. What is it about God and what is it about us that makes this promise so shocking? In other words, why is it surprising that God would ever answer our prayers?
6. To help us gain that confidence, Jesus tells us two stories. One story is found in verses 5-8. A second story is found in verses 9-13. Let's think about the first story, first.
 - a. Explain this story in your own words.
 - b. What question is Jesus asking? What answer is he expecting?
 - c. What are some of the excuses the friend might have given for not getting up and helping this man? Does Jesus think anyone would ever really respond to a friend that way?
 - d. What's the point of this story, do you think?
7. Sometimes we will look to our friends for help, before we look to God. Why is that so foolish?
8. Now, let's look at the second story.
 - a. God is much more to you than a next door neighbor. What does Jesus tell us to call God in verse 2?
 - b. So now, he looks at how human fathers relate to their children. What question does Jesus ask?
 - c. How does Jesus apply this story in verse 13?

9. If we were going to summarize this passage, we might say, if we would risk being rude to go to a friend for help when we have a need, how much more should we go to God with our spiritual needs, He is much better than a sinful friend, He actually promises to help us when we ask, and we can be confident, He will keep that promise, because He's our Father, and even sinful human fathers love to do good to their children when they ask him.
10. God wants us to ask Him for spiritual blessings and He wants us to ask Him confidently. Besides these two encouragements in Luke 11, what other reasons do we have from Scripture as to why we should pray confidently?
11. What spiritual blessings are you praying boldly about today?

Application Guide

1. Have you ever been surprised that God would listen to your prayers? Why is God listening to prayers, surprising?
2. This was a message about being confident in prayer. Think about your prayer life for a moment. How are you doing with confidence and prayer? Are you going to God boldly? If not, why not? What is keeping you from being confident in prayer?
3. Do you think it is possible to be confident in prayer for the wrong reasons? What are some poor reasons people are confident in prayer?
4. If someone asked you why a believer could be confident that God would listen to a sinner like them, how would you answer? What biblical truths would you bring up?
5. If someone looked at your attitude towards prayer, what would they say you believed about God?
6. What reasons did Jesus give as to why we could go to God confidently? Which of those reasons resonated with you the most?
7. How can you regain confidence in God in prayer? What can you do to become more bold in prayer?
8. What are you going to pray to God boldly about this week?