

**YOUR KINGDOM COME**  
**ASKING PERSISTENTLY – LUKE 11:9-13 & 18:1-8**  
**SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE – JANUARY 26**

This past weekend we concluded our series on prayer, considering our persistent engagement in prayer in light of God’s gracious character and kingdom. **READ LUKE 11:9-13 & 18:1-8.**

1. Both of the parables Jesus tells in these passages emphasize persistence in prayer. In Luke 11:8, we see this word “impudence,” or “shameless audacity” in the NIV, which also has the sense of desperation and disregard for how one is perceived by others.
  - a. Have you ever felt too ashamed or self-conscious about a need or request to pray?
  - b. When you pray, do you feel like you are performing? How could you bring more of your whole and true self into prayer?
2. In both of these passages, Jesus tells us that God’s fatherly care and righteous judgment give us more—not less—reason to persist in prayer. What do you think God is doing through our persistence?
3. In Luke 11:13, Jesus tells us that our heavenly Father is willing to give “the good gift” of his Holy Spirit to those who ask him. Why is the Holy Spirit a good gift?
  - a. Think about a current request you’ve brought before the Lord or a circumstance you find yourself in. In what way(s) would a greater experience of the Holy Spirit be an answer to your request?
4. In Luke 11, “ask,” “seek,” and “knock” are all present tense verbs, implying ongoing engagement with the Lord in prayer. What is the next step you need to take in cultivating a more consistent prayer life?
5. Are there any prayers you’ve stopped praying? Is there anyone you’ve stopped praying for? Why? What are one or two things from the last several weeks of sermons and discussions that encourage you to start praying again?

**PRAY**

The personal and corporate prayer prompts can be found on the “home” page of The Journey St. Louis app. You can also pray for those family, friends, neighbors, or coworkers who do not know Jesus. The following prompts are from the card we received this past weekend:

- Pray that God would open their hearts so that they would come to Christ. (Jn. 14:6; Acts 16:14)
- Pray that God would give them a soft heart and place his spirit in them. (Ezekiel 11:9; 36:27)
- Pray that God would remove Satan’s blinding influence. (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- Pray for opportunities to minister to them. (Matthew 5:16)
- Pray with confidence and persistence. (James 5:16; Colossians 4:2)