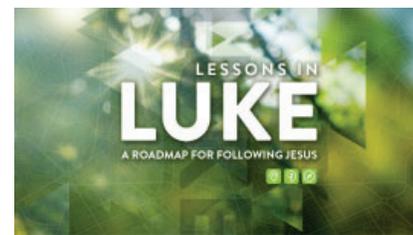


## DAILY READING PLAN



Week of July 18, 2021

Lessons in Luke: Jesus on Prayer

Luke 11:1-13

### Day One: Read Luke 11:1

*Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”*

- Who taught you to pray? What were you taught? How have those early lessons impacted your prayer life today? How might your prayer life need to change and grow?

### Day Two: Read Luke 11:2-4

*Jesus said, “This is how you should pray:*

*“Father, may your name be kept holy.*

*May your Kingdom come soon.*

*Give us each day the food we need,*

*and forgive us our sins,*

*as we forgive those who sin against us.*

*And don’t let us yield to temptation.”*

- Jesus never intended this prayer to be prayed word-for-word. It was meant to be a pattern for prayer. When you look at it that way, what are the core themes that Jesus highlights in prayer? Are those themes reflected in your daily prayers?

### Day Three: Read Luke 11:5-8

*Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: “Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’ But I tell you this—though he won’t do it for friendship’s sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence.”*

- Read these verses in several different translations. What nuances do the various translations highlight? How do these nuances change the meaning of the passage? If this isn’t about having to harass God to get what we want, what is it about?

### Day Four: Read Luke 11:9-10

*“And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.”*

- Is Jesus promising that if we just pray often enough, we’ll get what we want? If not, what do these verses mean? If prayer is less about changing God and more about changing us, how might that shift the meaning?

### Day Five: Read Luke 11:11-13

*“You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.”*

- What is Jesus trying to teach us about the One to whom we pray? Why do you think Jesus emphasizes the gift of the Holy Spirit as he concludes his lesson on prayer?