

28 Parable of Jesus
Asking to Give, NOT Asking to Take
 Bible Sermon Study Notes: Pastor Cary Rodgers, Jr

How did Jesus demonstrate by example our daily dependence on God to do His will and to minister to others?

John 14:8-14, 24

- 8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.
 9 Jesus saith unto him, **Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father?**
 10 **Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.**
 11 **Believe me that I *am* in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.**
 24 **He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.**

Joh 5:17 But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.

John 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.**

Joh 5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because **I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.**

John 8:28-29

- 28 Then said Jesus unto them, **When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am *he*, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.**
 29 **And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.**

Jesus demonstrated that He was continually dependent on His Father. He always looked to the will of the Father, not His own. This was the habit of Jesus throughout His earthly ministry. Jesus words were from the Father. Everyday Jesus received a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. **This should be our experience daily. All true believers in Christ must follow His example of dependence.**

Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would be totally dependent on the father during His earthly ministry.

Isa 50:4 The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to *him that is* weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

After Satan tempted Jesus to make stones into bread, what was Jesus response to show us that He was totally dependent on the Father?

Mat 4:4 But he answered and said, **It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**

We are to depend on “EVERY WORD” of God: His promises, messages of love, rebuke, correction, and instruction in righteousness. Every means every WORD!

In order to know EVERY WORD you must study the WORD of God, Holy Bible daily for yourself!

2 Ti 2:15 Study [earnest effort-diligence-labor] to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

The Word of God which is inspired by God is the WILL of GOD!

2Ti 3:16 ALL scripture **is** given by inspiration of God, and **is** profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2Ti 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Inspiration of God [Greek] = theopneustos [*theh-op'-nyoo-stos*], **divinely breathed** in. (Strong's Greek Dictionary)

Inspiration of the Respiration of God!

In other words, the inspiration of God is the respiration of God. He breathed into the Word of God life. The Word of God is life the offers the gift of eternal life to ALL people! The Word of God, His Holy Bible is living. It has been "divinely breathed in."

Jesus example reveals that He came to minister to others. This is the example that true worshipers of Christ must follow. What does Jesus tell ALL His disciples about true ministry?

Mat 20:26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

Mat 20:28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mat 23:12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

True worshipers of Jesus are ministers to ALL the world. We are all given the responsibility to do the work of Jesus, teaching, preaching (proclaiming), and healing.

One day when Jesus was seen and heard praying to His Father in private by His disciples, what did the disciples ask Jesus?

Luk 11:1 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, **teach us to pray**, as John also taught his disciples.

Pray [Greek] proseuchomai [*pros-yoo'-khom-ahee*] = *pray to* God, that is, **supplicate**, *worship*: - pray (X earnestly, for), make prayer. - Strong's Greek Dictionary

Supplicate = ask or beg for something earnestly or humbly. (Dictionary.com)

In other words, the disciples were asking Jesus to teach them how worship God in prayer and how to ask Him in humility and earnestness.

Prayer is the communication method of worship in which you humbly come to God in worship and supplication.

What was Jesus' response to the disciples request?

Luke 11:2-4

- 2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.
- 3 Give us day by day our daily bread.
- 4 And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Here Jesus repeats the prayer that He taught the people on the “Sermon of the Mountain” in Matthew 6:9-13.

In General there are seven key parts to prayer:

- 1) **Introduction & Recognition** – Address the Holy God the Father in heaven
- 2) **Thanksgiving – Thy Kingdom come** – kingdom of grace & salvation
- 3) **Divine Power** - “Thy will be done.”
- 4) **Supplication** – Make your request to God (example: “Give us...our daily bread”
- 5) **Forgiveness and deliverance** from sin
- 6) **Closing** – Re emphasis on the power and might of God (Matthew 6:13)
- 7) **In the name of Jesus (Col 3:17)** And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.) Jesus is our high priest interceding on our behalf.

Prayer is for us, not God. Prayer connects us to divine power. It brings us up to God as a means of communication and supplication.

What key lesson does Jesus teach the disciples and us about prayer? It's found in the following parable about prayer.

Parable

Luke 11:5-7

- 5 And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at **midnight**, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves;
- 6 For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him?
- 7 And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

Lesson

Luke 11:8-13

- 8 I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity **[begging]** he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.
- 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
- 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
- 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if *he ask* a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?
- 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?
- 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Now let's examine the lesson of the parable that Jesus is teaching us.

This parable answers the question of the main purpose of prayer for the disciples of Jesus.

Is the petitioner praying to give or to take?

Notice that the petitioner is praying to give bread for a friend. The petitioner's is prayer to give not to take. This parable is a model of our supplications to God.

Who represents the petitioner, the one asking the friend in this parable and why is the petitioner begging?

“Here Christ represents the petitioner as asking that he may give again. He must obtain the bread, else he cannot supply the necessities of a weary, belated wayfarer. Though his neighbor is unwilling to be troubled, he will not desist his pleading; his friend must be relieved; and at last his importunity [begging] is rewarded, his wants are supplied.” COL p. 140

The POWER of Bread

Bread is generally made from whole grains such as wheat or barley. Bread is known as the “staff of life” because of its whole grains that are essential to a healthy diet. They are packed with nutrients including protein, B vitamins, antioxidants, and trace minerals(iron, zinc, copper, and magnesium).

Bread made of whole grains are complex carbohydrates that provide the fuel for the body. Complex carbs are like the wood in the fire place. The fire is like the body metabolism. What get the metabolism going and the fuel burning are vitamins. Vitamins from fruits and veggies are the spark that get the fire started. The complex carbs keeps the fire going and hot! Our body's cannot function properly without complex carbs, such as whole grains in our diet. You have to have this DAILY for energy and stamina.

What did God give the Israelites in the wilderness from slavery in Egypt on their way to Canaan Land?

Exodus 16:14-15

- 14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness *there lay* a small round thing, *as* small as the hoar frost on the ground.
- 15 And when the children of Israel saw *it*, they said one to another, It *is* manna: for they wist not what it *was*. And Moses said unto them, This *is* the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.

Manna >Whole Grain>Bread

mân **BDB Definition:**1) manna

- 1a) the bread from Heaven that fed the Israelites for 40 years of wilderness wanderings
1b) means ‘What is it?’

Exo 16:31 And the house of Israel called the name there of Manna: and it *was* like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it *was* like wafers *made* with honey.

Exo 16:35 And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

For 40 years in the wilderness God rained down heaven's bread in the wilderness. Manna was their source of food, it was literally their source of physical life. They had to gather the manna for six days. On the sixth day they gathered twice as much before seventh day Sabbath. They ate manna everyday!

Spiritually who does the manna, the bread of life represent?

John 6:31-40

- 31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.
- 32 Then Jesus said unto them, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.**
- 33 **For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.**
- 34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.
- 35 And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that**

believeth on me shall never thirst.

- 36 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.
- 37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.
- 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.
- 39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.
- 40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Manna = Bread of Life = Everlasting = Jesus

Jesus is the Word of life

The Word, the Holy Scriptures is also the bread of life because they point to Jesus

Joh 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Going back to the parable who was the petitioner asking bread for and why?

Luke 11:6 For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him?

The petitioner was asking bread for a friend that was coming to stay with him and the petitioner did not have anything for him to eat.

What key lesson is Jesus teaching in the parable when it comes to prayer?

As workers for Christ, we cannot make our “bread” of life it only comes from God. We MUST ask for it daily. We must pray “Give us our daily bread” so we can feed others with the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

“In like manner the disciples were to seek blessings from God. In the feeding of the multitude and in the sermon on the bread from heaven, Christ had opened to them their work as His representatives. They were to give the bread of life to the people. He who had appointed their work, saw how often their faith would be tried. Often they would be thrown into unexpected positions, and would realize their human insufficiency. Souls that were hungering for the bread of life would come to them, and they would feel themselves to be destitute and helpless. They must receive spiritual food, or they would have nothing to impart. But they were not to turn one soul away unfed.” COL 141

We are to ask to give and not asking to take!

Asking to give...	Not asking to TAKE for yourself...
Bible truth and understanding	Degrees and worldly education
Build up the kingdom of God	Build bigger earthly homes and buildings
Ways to serve others	Ways to be served
Avenues to share the Bible truth with others	Avenues to drive a new luxury car

What was the attitude of the petitioner's neighbor?

It was selfish. Even though his friend had a great need. He did not want to open the door at first. He just thought about himself, but because the petitioner was persistent, he opened the door and supplied his need.

Even though Christ represents the petitioner in the parable as an example our need to ask for bread for

others, the neighbor's character in the parable does not represent the character of God the Father.

“The lesson is drawn, not by comparison, but by contrast. A selfish man will grant an urgent request, in order to rid himself of one who disturbs his rest. **But God delights to give.** He is full of compassion, and He longs to grant the requests of those who come unto Him in faith. He gives to us that we may minister to others and thus become like Himself.” COL 141

In the parable what are three key principles that Jesus teaches us when we make our petitions to God in prayer?

Go back to parable

Luke 11:9-10

- 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
- 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Three principles A.S.K.

A – Ask (make your specific request to God)

S – Seek (Seek for avenues to make provision for request)

K – Knock (Be persistent and do with ALL God power) May have to knock on many doors but keep knocking.

What is the result when all three A.S.K. principles are met?

The promise in Luke 11:10 – You will receive, find, and it will be open!

In other words, God answers your request!

- 1) A- You will receive it.
- 2) S - You will find provisions for it.
- 3) K - Doors will be open to GIVE IT to others!

Remember our asking must be within the will and glory of God for the kingdom of God. Our prayers are not to be a selfish asking, merely for our own benefit. We are to ask that we may give.

Joh 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Remember who you are praying to? God the Father

Why does God give us the privilege of calling Him Father?

“In order to strengthen our confidence in God, Christ teaches us to address Him by a new name, a name entwined with the dearest associations of the human heart. He gives us the privilege of calling the infinite God our Father. This name, spoken to Him and of Him, is a sign of our love and trust toward Him, and a pledge of His regard and relationship to us. Spoken when asking His favor or blessing, it is as music in His ears. That we might not think it presumption to call Him by this name, He has repeated it again and again. He desires us to become familiar with the appellation.” COL 142

No other human being should take the place of God being our “Father.”

Jesus says, **Mat 23:9** And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

This is not referring to your biological father. This is referring to those who claim to have spiritual leadership over you. The priest of the papacy are called “father”, in a spiritual sense. This is blasphemy only God is our Father, no man.

Did you know that the title “pope” is extremely blasphemous?

The name “pope” is Italian for “papa” which is an abbreviation pater patrum which means father of fathers or principal father.

Also the pope is called “Most Holy Father”. These titles are blasphemous and only belong to GOD! The pope's blasphemous titles exposes the whole system as a religious fraud!

Only the God of Heaven is the FATHER of fathers. He is the MOST HOLY Father, not the pope!

What is another precious lesson of the parable of the petitioner?

The more you receive and give to others, you will receive even MORE to give to others!

Jesus says in **Mat 10:8** **Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.**

“We are to ask blessings from God that we may communicate to others. The capacity for receiving is preserved only by imparting. We cannot continue to receive heavenly treasure without communicating to those around us.” {COL 142.3}

Another Lesson: In the parable the petitioner did not get his request right away, he had to be persistent! When you make your petitions to God, asking to give, you must also be persistent. Don't give up in pray as long as it is when in the will of the Father. God may answer, YES, NO, or wait. Be persistent until the answer is given.

BUT anytime you ask for bread of eternal life in understand truth to give to others, GOD will ALWAYS answer that request.

“In the parable the petitioner was again and again repulsed, but he did not relinquish his purpose. So our prayers do not always seem to receive an immediate answer; but Christ teaches that we should not cease to pray. Prayer is not to work any change in God; it is to bring us into harmony with God. When we make request of Him, He may see that it is necessary for us to search our hearts and repent of sin. Therefore He takes us through test and trial, He brings us through humiliation, that we may see what hinders the working of His Holy Spirit through us.” {COL 143.1}

“God does not say, Ask once, and you shall receive. He bids us ask. Unwearyingly persist in prayer. The persistent asking brings the petitioner into a more earnest attitude, and gives him an increased desire to receive the things for which he asks.” {COL 145}

What are the conditions to answered prayer?

Joh 14:15 **If ye love me, keep my commandments.**

Joh 14:21 **He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.**

Joh 15:7 **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.**

Joh 15:10 **If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.**

1 John 2:3-5

- 3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.
 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.
 There is another matter too often neglected by those who seek the Lord in prayer. Have you been honest with God?

Malachi 3:7-8

- 7 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept *them*. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?
 8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

What are the blessings and promise of your honesty when you give back to God what He already owns?

Malachi 3:10-12

- 10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it*.
 11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.
 12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

Questions you must ask and answer yourself:

Do you have faith that God hears and will answer your prayers?

Are your prayers asking to give or asking to take?

Are you within the will of God? Are you living in known sin? Are you breaking any of God's commandments?

Evaluate your prayers, evaluate your life?

You must ask GOD in FAITH

Mar 11:24 **Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**

James 1:5-6

- 5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

“Take the word of Christ as your assurance. Has He not invited you to come unto Him? Never allow yourself to talk in a hopeless, discouraged way. If you do you will lose much. By looking at appearances and complaining when difficulties and pressure come, you give evidence of a sickly, enfeebled faith. Talk and act as if your faith was invincible. The Lord is rich in resources; He owns the world. Look heavenward in faith. Look to Him who has light and power and efficiency.” COL 147

Ask for the Holy Spirit (persistently)

Plead for the Holy Spirit for understanding, power, and open doors to minister to other the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ

“We must not only pray in Christ's name, but by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. This explains what is meant

when it is said that the Spirit 'maketh intercession for us, with groanings which cannot be uttered' Romans 8:26. Such prayer God delights to answer. When with earnestness and intensity we breathe a prayer in the name of Christ, there is in that very intensity a pledge from God that He is about to answer our prayer "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think' Ephesians 3:20." {COL 147.3}

Heavens doors are open wide to your prayers to give! Their is no excuse in which you can tap into heavens storehouse of blessing so you can give to others.

How much will God give to us so we can give to others?

Php 4:19 But my God shall supply **all** your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

What kind of prayers should we never pray to God?

Jas 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

Amiss Greek: kakōs [*kak-ocē*] Adverb from **G2556**; *badly* (physically or morally): - amiss, diseased, evil, grievously, miserably, sick, sore.

God does not answer selfish prayers. Remember the Devil sees your actions and hears your audible prayers. If your prayers are selfish and will fulfill the lustful flesh, Satan can set up things to answer those types of prayers.

Appeal

“Personal effort for others should be preceded by much secret prayer; for it requires great wisdom to understand the science of saving souls. Before communicating with men, commune with Christ. At the throne of heavenly grace obtain a preparation for ministering to the people.” {COL 149.1}

Warning in these last days we cannot neglect prayer and Bible study, daily eating the Bread of Life!

“Satan well knows that all whom he can lead to neglect prayer and the searching of the Scriptures, will be overcome by his attacks. Therefore he invents every possible device to engross the mind.” GC 519

Remember ASK God to give. Don't ask to take...