LET US PRAY Part 3: Doing it Right

Objective: To help us begin to pray like Jesus prayed, with real power.

Read together:

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." 2 He said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. 3 Give us each day our daily bread. 4 Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation."

Luke 11:1-4

Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6 a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.' 7 And suppose the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' 8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet <u>because of your shameless audacity</u> he will surely get up and give you <u>as much as you need</u>.

9 "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Luke 11:5-10

- Have you ever met or known someone who's prayers just seem to be powerful? When they prayed it seemed like God usually acted? Can you think of anything about their prayers that is different from yours?
- When you pray, do you feel like you are truly connecting with God or do you feel like you're simply talking to "someone out there?"
- Jesus teaches us to pray with worship, humility, expectation and boldness. Which of these is the easiest for you to incorporate into your prayer time? Why? Which is the hardest for you. Why?
- What is the boldest prayer you can think of that you need to pray?
- If you are comfortable, share with the group a bold prayer that you have or want to pray? Is there anything that keeps you from praying that prayer? If there is, spend some time this week asking God to help you pray with boldness.
- Do you think the ACTS (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Seeking) model for prayer can help you pray more focused prayers?

Final Thought: This week, as you pray, use the ACTS model of prayer to stay focused and begin to pray BOLD prayers.

