



# LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

## 6 MAY

### EXPECTANT PRAYER: JESUS

This study guide should be used the week following the sermon it supplements.

**MAIN TEXT:** Luke 11:1-13

1 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."

5 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 because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

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.

11 "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for [f] a fish, will give him a snake instead? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

## COMING UP

Equip Academy – P&P | 6 May-17 Jun  
CAP Money | 6, 13, 20 May  
Prayer Meeting | 16 May  
Belonging | 3 June

## GETTING STARTED

We want to develop and strengthen a healthy culture of encouragement at Chapel, so each week we'll start our LG's by sharing something we want to thank God for: an encouraging thing He's doing in our lives, or in the lives of others. Thinking specifically in relation to the B.L.E.S.S.\* series (a reminder of what this means is on the bottom of this sheet), can you share any encouragement from your own personal witnessing and 'bless'ing?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. What was some of the context behind the disciples' question in verse 1? *Hint:* Luke 10: 38-42. There was an atmosphere of intimacy that surrounded Jesus when he prayed.

2. Luke's gospel account focuses on Jesus' prayer life more so than the other three gospels. Read the accounts that Howard mentioned (find more if you can). What can we deduce about the importance of prayer from these passages?

- Luke 3:21
- Luke 5:16
- Luke 6:12
- Luke 9:28
- Luke 22:44

3. "If the devil can't make you bad, he'll make you busy" - Corrie Ten Boom. If we fail to make time for prayer, what dangers do we face? *Hint:* Jesus' time with God the Father was the centre of his existence: he knew his identity as a beloved child, called for a specific purpose.

4. Verses 2-4 show us an inspired pattern of prayer. In our personal prayer life, where do we tend to start our prayers? What difference does it make to see prayer as relational rather than functional?

5. If we have already been forgiven and made right with God, why do we need to daily ask for forgiveness? How can unforgiveness rob us of joy?

6. Verses 5-13 are an example of 'shamelessly pushy prayer.' How does this passage challenge us to pray more persistently?

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**\*B.L.E.S.S. means:** Begin with Prayer, Listen with care Eat together, Serve with love, Share Stories. For more info see [westminsterchapel.org.uk/bless](http://westminsterchapel.org.uk/bless).

## **NEXT STEPS & PRAYER**

Go through the Lord's Prayer line-by-line together, and pray aloud into each line, giving time and space to 'hallow' God's name and to enjoy his father-like intimacy.

In the sermon, we were challenged to take 30 minutes this week to be with god and to pray through the Lord's Prayer, and then to write out what God has said to us. If you haven't done this yet, decide on a day and time, and make this a priority.

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