



WEDNESDAY EVENING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: “Lord, Teach Us to Pray”

Passage: Luke 11:1-13

Speaker: Pastor Dan Preston

Introduction: When the disciples had that opportunity, they did not ask Jesus to teach them how to preach, lead, or perform miracles. Instead, after watching His consistent and powerful prayer life, they simply said in Luke 11:1, “Lord, teach us to pray.” Their request reveals that prayer is not something we naturally understand, but something we must learn. Many believers know about prayer, yet struggle to develop a meaningful and consistent prayer life. The encouraging truth is that Jesus was willing to teach His disciples, and He still desires to teach us today.

I. **Prayer is Learned** (Verse 1)

Prayer is not something you naturally drift into. It is not something you automatically become good at just because you are saved. Prayer is something that must be learned.

A strong prayer life is not built on good intentions. It is built on daily, consistent pursuit. It is something you develop over time. It is something you must choose, again and again, even when you don't feel like it.

Prayer is not just a technique to master, it is a relationship to enter.

II. **Prayer is Relational** (Verses 2-4)

Jesus is telling the disciples that prayer is not about performing in front of a distant God, it is about coming into the presence of a loving Father.



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When you pray, you are not approaching a reluctant God who has to be convinced to listen. You are coming to a Father who already knows you, who already loves you, and who invites you to come.

The more you come to Him, the more personal and natural that relationship becomes.

III. Prayer is Persistent (Verses 5-10)

Sometimes, the greatest work God is doing is not around you, it is in you.

Persistence in prayer does something to a person. It builds dependence. It deepens faith. It aligns your heart with God's will. It moves prayer from being something you occasionally do to something that becomes a part of who you are.

IV. Prayer is Trusting (Verses 11-13)

Prayer is not about getting God to do what we want. It is about trusting Him to do what is right.

Jesus reminds us that the power of prayer is rooted in the goodness of the One we are praying to.

You are coming to a Father who knows exactly what you need, and who will never give you something that ultimately harms you.

Conclusion: As Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He showed them that prayer is learned, relational, persistent, and trusting. Prayer is not meant to be a ritual we repeat mechanically, but a daily relationship with our heavenly Father. It is through prayer that we grow in dependence on God, align our hearts with His will, and learn to trust His wisdom and goodness even when we do not understand His timing. The invitation Jesus gave His disciples is still extended to us today. God desires for His children to come to Him honestly, consistently, and confidently.