



Speaker: Wilson Adams

Wednesday Notes 03-21-2018

Pray BIG!

A. The challenge of Jesus—Matt.6:31-33

1. Do we tend to pray more in keeping with verse 31 (life's daily minutia), or more in keeping with verse 33?
2. What have you been praying for that stretches your faith? –That is beyond your ability to control? –That grips your heart?

B. When we understand what Jesus taught about prayer, it pits our faith to the test.

I. "Lord, Teach Us To Pray..." Luke 11:1ff

A. These were good Jewish men who grew up going to the synagogue and hearing hundreds of prayers. Now in the company of Jesus and watching Him, they realize there is something different about the way He prays.

1. vv.2-4 (we usually leave Luke and go to Matthew for the full version). Two things:

(1) This is not the "Lord's prayer," but the disciple's prayer. (2) The point of prayer is not word-for-word memorization.

2. Jesus teaches them the basics. However, they wanted more...

B. He launches into a story, vv.5-6, 7.

1. The disciples had heard enough Jesus-stories to know two things: (1) someone represents us and (2) someone represents God.

2. It's easy to feel that our prayer-requests are bothersome to Him? –Especially if you keep coming and asking the same thing.

3. One thing for sure: this man kept coming! Shameless, bold, and persistent... v.8

C. Three Words Describe Persistence: "Ask" "Seek" "Knock" v.9

1. The point: Keep asking. Keep seeking. Keep knocking.

2. It's not one-and-done!

II. _____ and _____ Are the Hallmark of Biblical Prayers

A. *You ask and keep on asking...* Why? v.10

1. We understand "Thy will be done" (Matt.26:39; James 4:15).

2. No wonder so little happens in our lives: "You do not have because you _____."

B. Examples

C. Jesus challenges them (and us!) to get out of our comfort zone. There will always be giants in the land, Goliaths in our path, and backs up against a Jericho wall. Have we not learned from Scripture (Rom.15:4)?

1. One of the way we honor our God is by the faith expressed in our asking.

2. We sing about His greatness and read about His greatness and then pray the opposite (Eph.3:20-21).