

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 10, 2008

Passage: Luke 11:5-13

Memory Passage: Jeremiah 33:3

**TODAY:** *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

### DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 11:5-8.** What is the parable about? Why did Jesus tell this parable? What is its connection to prayer?
- (b) What are some of the misconceptions that people have about God when they come to Him in prayer (Matthew 6:6-8)?
- (c) What do Psalm 34:15, Isaiah 65:24, Jeremiah 33:3, Psalm 91:14-16 tell us about God's willingness to hear and answer?
- (d) What do John 16:24 and James 2:4 tell us about the importance of praying? What is one thing we need to be confident about whenever we come to God in prayer?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 11:5-8 and Jeremiah 33:3. Read Psalm 116:1-2. Why did the Psalmist say he would pray? How should we pray? What should be our attitude? Spend some time just praising God for who He is.

### DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 11:5-8 again.** What is surprising about this parable? How urgent was this man's need?
- (b) What was this man's concern? What objection does the house owner give? Why does he get up anyway?
- (c) Read Luke 18:1-8. What is similar about this parable? What is different? What principle about prayer is Jesus also teaching here? Read Genesis 32:24-26. What was Jacob's attitude? How can we apply this to praying?
- (d) What do these two parables tell us about persistence in prayer (Colossians 4:2; Colossians 1:9; Romans 12:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Romans 12:12; James 5:16)? What might be one reason that our prayers are not answered?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 11:5-8 and Colossians 4:2. Talk about the importance of being persistent in prayer. Is this to make God listen or to convince Him of how important this is? Or is it for our sake in some way? Why is persistence important for us? Pray together about your own prayer life. Pray that you will be persistent in calling upon the Lord.

### DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 4:16.** How are we told to come before the throne of God? Why can we do this (Hebrews 4:15; Ephesians 2:18)?
- (b) Look again at Luke 11:8. *How much* does the neighbor give his friend? Compare this with Ephesians 3:20-21.
- (c) Does God give us everything we want? Why not (Matthew 6:8; Matthew 6:32; Luke 12:30; Psalm 84:11)? Does He give us things when we do not pray (John 16:24)?
- (d) Read Isaiah 45:11 and Jeremiah 33:3. What kind of language does God use when telling Israel to call on Him? Why does it seem strange to us? What does it tell you about our need to "come boldly" in prayer?
- (e) *Family:* Read Hebrews 4:16 and Ephesians 3:20-21. What does it mean to pray boldly? What are some reasons that we don't pray in this way? What should be our heart's desire even though we pray boldly? Pray that you might boldly approach the Lord in prayer this week.

### DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 11:9-10.** What are the three things that we are told to do? What does asking imply (John 16:24; James 4:2)?
- (b) Can we ask whatever we want and get it? What did Jesus tell his disciples in John 15:7? What did the Psalmist tell us about prayer in Psalm 37:4? How can we get our desires in line with God's delight?
- (c) What does seeking imply? What are we to be seeking in our praying (1 John 5:14-15)? Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. What was Paul praying about? How often did he ask? (Is this a strict number or just the number of times he prayed before God answered)? What did Paul learn from God by this?
- (d) What does knocking imply (Think back to the parable in verses 5-8)? What three promises are we given (Luke 11:10)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 11:9-10 and 1 John 5:14-15. Why is it important to pray according to God's will? How does prayer help us to know His will? Pray that your heart might be delighting in Him as you seek to know His desires for everything you pray for.

**DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT****READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Luke 11:11-13.** What general principle about fathers does Jesus use in these verses? How would this apply to God and our relationship to Him in prayer?
- (b) What does God remind Israel (Isaiah 45:15-16)? Is that same promise for believers today (Romans 8:16; 1 John 3:1-2)?
- (c) What happens when someone believes on Jesus (John 1:12; Romans 8:14; Romans 9:26; Galatians 4:5-6)?
- (d) What does Jesus say about the nature of all fathers (and all humans! Romans 3:10; Romans 3:23; Romans 7:18)? Why does he contrast this with God's fatherhood?
- (e) Compare Luke 11:13 with Matthew 7:11. What is different? Which promise is broader? Explain.
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 11:11-13. How does thinking of God's fatherhood help us to be bold in our praying? Do your children bring all kinds of requests to you? Do you give them everything they ask for? Do you usually give them what is best for them? Pray for someone that is not yet a child of God. Pray for his conversion.

**DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT****READ THE PASSAGE**

*Think back through what you have learned each day this week.* Read Luke 11:5-13. How does our view of God affect our praying to Him? What view of God should we have? Does it matter if we pray since God already knows what we need? How important is persistence in prayer? How important is it to pray boldly? Pray for tomorrow's services that the Lord would be honored and that many would be bold in calling upon the Lord for their needs.

**DATE:** August 10, 2008

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***The Disciple's Confidence***

*"Call unto me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things..."*