

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 3, 2008

Passage: Luke 11:1-4

Memory Passage: Philippians 4:6

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 11:1-4.** What was Jesus doing when the disciples asked him to teach them how to pray?
- (b) Was this an unusual event (Luke 6:12; Luke 9:18; Luke 9:28; Luke 22:39; Hebrews 5:7)? What should this teach us about the importance of prayer for our lives?
- (c) Does Jesus tell them to pray this prayer? What does he say? In Matthew 6:9, does Jesus tell them to pray this prayer? What does he say?
- (d) Compare this with Matthew 6:5-13. What is similar? Different? What might this also tell you about this prayer?
- (e) In Matthew 6:5-8, what are some things we should *not* be doing in our praying?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 11:1-4 and Matthew 6:5-8. Talk together about prayer. What is the hardest thing about prayer? Why do you think Jesus gave the disciples this prayer? How can it help us in prayer? Pray the God will give you a heart to pray.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 11:2.** What is the first petition that Jesus offers? Why might this be important? What does this remind us when we are praying (Matthew 6:6)? What are the petitions toward God in this verse (compare Matthew 6:9-10)?
- (b) How did Jesus address God in prayer (Luke 10:21; Luke 23:34; Luke 23:46)? Why is this term unusual? How can Christians use this term in praying to God (Galatians 4:6; Romans 8:15)?
- (c) Why should we begin with a concern for the name of God (Psalm 9:10; John 12:28; Revelation 15:4; Leviticus 10:3; John 17:10)? How should this help us in prayer?
- (d) What does the word, “hallowed” mean? How do we do this in prayer? What are some of the names of God that you know? Write them down. What do they mean? How does praising God and His name help you to pray more effectively?
- (e) Read John 12:27-28. What was the concern of Jesus (John 11:4; John 11:40)? What should be our ultimate concern in every petition we offer?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 11:2 and John 12:27-28. How does Jesus say we should begin our prayer time? Why is this important? How do you think this would help your prayer life? Spend some time praising God for Who He is.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 11:2.** What is the second petition toward God that Jesus suggests? What is the essence of this petition?
- (b) What are some ways that Jesus spoke about this kingdom (Luke 17:20-21; Luke 11:20; Luke 13:29; Luke 18:16; Matthew 6:33; Romans 14:17)? What are we praying for when we pray, “Thy Kingdom come?”
- (c) What did Jesus say was his desire (John 4:34; John 6:38; Matthew 26:42)? How is God’s will done in heaven?
- (d) What should be our desire (Mark 3:35)? How does this help us to get our own hearts right before making personal requests? What promise does 1 John 5:14-15 give us?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 11:2. How does prayer affect our desires? What are some things that we should pray for before we ask for anything for ourselves? How does this kind of praying make our prayer more effective? Pray for the salvation of someone that does not know the Lord.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 11:3-4.** What are the three petitions found in these verses? How do they differ from the first three?
- (b) What does the idea of *bread* convey? What does the idea of *daily* convey? Read Philippians 4:6.
- (c) Read Matthew 6:25-34. When we approach God with our needs, what should be our attitude? How does praying for those needs help us to develop that attitude?
- (d) Should we *only* pray for this kind of need (2 Thessalonians 3:10-12; James 2:16)?

(e) *Family*: Read Luke 11:3-4 and Philippians 4:6. Should we ask God to provide for our needs? How often? Are there things we should not ask for? Spend some time asking God for specific needs in your life.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 11:1-4.** What are the other two petitions that Jesus tells his disciples to pray for?
- (b) Why is the second one so important (Matthew 6:14-15; Matthew 18:35; James 2:13; Ephesians 4:32)? How does unforgiveness affect our prayer life? What warning does 1 Peter 3:7 give to husbands?
- (c) What is the last petition? What is the connection between prayer and God's protection (Luke 22:46; Matthew 26:41; 2 Thessalonians 3:3; Hebrews 13:8)?
- (d) Do we have to pray if God knows all (James 4:2-3; John 16:24)?
- (e) *Family*: Read Luke 11:1-4 and John 16:24. Why is forgiveness important to our prayer life? How can prayer help you to stand against the temptations of the enemy? Pray that the Lord will protect you this week from Satan's attacks.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Luke 11:1-4. Why should disciples pray? Is prayer essential to the believer's life? What might we miss if we do not pray about everything? Pray that God's Word might be clear tomorrow and that His will might be done.

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The Disciple's Prayer

"Lord, teach us to pray..."