

Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.' "Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs. Luke 11:5-8 (NIV)

Bold And Persistent

What kind of prayers do you think I want to hear from you? I'm not quite sure what you mean? What are you asking of me? Do you think I want to hear a lot of insignificant prayers from you? Do you think I want to hear a lot of prayers about you finding a great parking spot or the light changing to green because you are in a hurry? Do you think I want to hear prayers for you to do well on a test that you haven't studied for? Do you think that I want to hear prayers about some brief want of yours that is here today and will certainly be gone tomorrow? Tell me how you describe these kinds of prayers? Really? Yes, really? Some I would call "one and done" prayers. Others I would call "happy meal prayers". **Why is that?** Neither have my heart and mind and life invested in them. Both of them have the longevity of a happy meal toy. They are briefly in my heart and mind and life for seconds, maybe minutes. If these prayers were to be heard and answered, I might not even notice. These prayers certainly don't capture my heart, engage my imagination or encourage my faith. **That is not good.** I know it is not. **Now, before we go too far, I don't want you to make a mistake.** Like what? **You can pray to me about anything. No prayer is too small or too large to pray. I am never bothered by any prayer you want to pray to me.** I get that. I understand. **That is very good.**

What do you think I want to do in you? What do you think I want to do with you? What do you think I want to do through you? You want to take me higher and deeper into prayer with you. You want to give me prayers to pray that will capture my heart, engage my imagination and encourage my faith. You want to give me prayers to pray that will bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. **Will these be small and insignificant prayers? Will these be "one and done" prayers? Will these prayers have the longevity of a happy meal toy?** Certainly not. These will be bold prayers that you will ask me to keep on praying until I have an answer from you. **Will you pray boldly and persistently the prayers I give you to pray?** Yes Lord, I will. **That will be very good.**

Lord, I will allow you to guide me to pray bold and persistent prayers. Give me your prayers to pray. Empower my prayers. Strengthen me as I pray. I will not quit. I will not give up. I will not grow weary. I will keep on praying until I have an answer from you. Amen

Becoming Like Christ *The Man's Boldness*

Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.' "Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

NIV

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *Shameless Persistence*

Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: "Suppose you went to a friend's house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, 'A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.' And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, 'Don't bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can't help you.' But I tell you this—though he won't do it for friendship's sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence.

NLT

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *His Persistence*

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

NRSV

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *Shameless Persistence*

And He said to them, Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and will say to him, Friend, lend me three loaves [of bread], For a friend of mine who is on a journey has just come, and I have nothing to put before him; And he from within will answer, Do not disturb me; the door is now closed, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and supply you [with anything]? I tell you, although he will not get up and supply him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his shameless persistence *and* insistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

AMP

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *His Persistence*

Then He said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and from inside he answers and says, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you *anything*.' "I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him *anything* because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

NASB

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *His Impudence*

And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs.

ESV

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *His Persistence*

And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'? I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs.

NKJV

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *Stand Your Ground*

Then he said, "Imagine what would happen if you went to a friend in the middle of the night and said, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread. An old friend traveling through just showed up, and I don't have a thing on hand.' "The friend answers from his bed, 'Don't bother me. The door's locked; my children are all down for the night; I can't get up to give you anything.' "But let me tell you, even if he won't get up because he's a friend, if you stand your ground, knocking and waking all the neighbors, he'll finally get up and get you whatever you need.

MSG

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *Your Persistence*

Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this illustration: "Suppose you went to a friend's house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You would shout up to him, 'A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit and I've nothing to give him to eat.' He would call down from his bedroom, 'Please don't ask me to get up. The door is locked for the night and we are all in bed. I just can't help you this time.' "But I'll tell you this—though he won't do it as a friend, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you everything you want—just because of your persistence.

TLB

Luke 11:5-8

Becoming Like Christ *Your Boldness*

Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you went to your friend's house at midnight and said to him, 'Friend, loan me three loaves of bread. A friend of mine has come into town to visit me, but I have nothing for him to eat.' Your friend inside the house answers, 'Don't bother me! The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, if friendship is not enough to make him get up to give you the bread, your boldness will make him get up and give you whatever you need.

NCV

Luke 11:5-8

The Man's Boldness

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Becoming Like Christ – Luke 11:5-8

In Context: *Read Luke 11*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.' "Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs. Luke 11:5-8 (NIV)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Then he said to them, | "Suppose one of you | has a friend, | and he | goes to him | at midnight and says, | 'Friend, | lend me three loaves of bread, | because a friend | of mine | on a journey | has come to me, | and | I have nothing | to set before him.' | "Then the one inside| answers, 'Don't bother me. | The door is already locked, | and my children | are with me in bed. | I can't get up | and give you anything.' | I tell you, | though he will not get up | and | give him the bread | because he is his friend, | yet because | of the | man's boldness | he will get up | and | give him | as much as | he needs. Luke 11:5-8 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I will allow you to guide me to pray bold and persistent prayers. Give me your prayers to pray. Empower my prayers. Strengthen me as I pray. I will not quit. I will not give up. I will not grow weary. I will keep on praying until I have an answer from you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why are one and done prayers often not the kind of prayer that the Lord is asking of you?

When has the Lord led you to pray a bold prayer that was a very large ask of Him?

How has the Lord led you to be persistent so that you kept on praying to Him?

When have you been tempted to give up and quit on prayer you were given to pray?

How has your faith grown as you have boldly and persistently kept on praying?

How has your heart, mind and life been changed by the bold and persistent prayers you have been given to pray?

When has the Lord heard and answered a bold prayer that you persistently kept on praying to Him?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow the Lord to guide you in praying bold and persistent prayers to Him.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will guide you to pray bold and persistent prayers to Him.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has led you to pray bold and persistent prayers to Him.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you pray bold and persistent prayers that the Lord will hear and answer.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will pray bold and persistent prayers that you will hear and answer.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what bold and persistent prayers do you want me to keep on praying today?
