

## **Sermon Based Discussion**

**Sermon Title: When You Pray... (The Lord's Prayer, part 1)**

**Sermon Series: A Better Way to Pray**

**Sermon Text: Luke 11:1-13**

### **OPENING QUESTION**

Imagine you had to call your boss/professor for a request. You had to make the call not to your boss' (or professor's) office, but to the home. And you had to make the call not during the work week, but on a Saturday. And not during the daytime, but at night... at 2am in the morning. And you made this call believing your boss would most likely grant your request.

1. Can you describe what kind of situation this might be?

### **INTO THE BIBLE**

**Read Luke 11:1-13**

In this occasion the disciples observed Jesus praying and asked him to teach them about prayer.

2. What types of statements make up the prayer Jesus told his disciples to say? Notice especially the types of requests Jesus' states in his model prayer.
3. What's the point of Jesus' hypothetical situation in verses 5-10?

What does this mean for our prayers to God?

4. What's the point of Jesus' hypothetical situation in verses 11-13?

### **GOING DEEPER (Sharing/Application)**

Some of our prayer requests are shameless but not very bold, like when we ask for something to we really want but may not need. And some of our requests are bold but not shameless, like when we ask for something we need but may not really want.

5. Think of all the prayer requests you made in recent months. (Assuming you pray.) What if all those request were compiled into a list? Would such a list be worthy of shameless, bold, and persistent prayer? How might you pray differently?
6. How would our prayers be different if we were absolutely convinced that our heavenly Father is a good God and knows what's best for us?

Do you think this would lead us to pray more or less to God?

### **CHANGING YOUR MIND**

*If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:13, NIV)*