Jesus’ Parable of The Friend At Midnight

Jesus reveals we must be persistent in our prayers to our loving good heavenly Father.

Introduction

- Although it is not identified as a parable, this short comparison conforms to the definition of a parable.
- A parable is an earthly story designed to teach a spiritual lesson through a comparison.
- Often, Jesus’ parables focused on the kingdom of God and were designed to hide the truth from the rebellious but to encourage the humble to seek the truth.

Introduction

- Sometimes Jesus would tell a parable to answer a question from either his enemies or his disciples.
- A disciple asked one such question about prayer.
- Jesus not only answers his question but speaks a parable that focuses on one key aspect of prayer that is often neglected, the need for persistence in prayer.

Jesus’ Parable of The Friend At Midnight

1. Background
2. The parable
3. Applications

A Disciple Asked Jesus To Teach Them to Pray

Luk 11:1 It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jesus Gives An Example Showing How and For What We Should Pray</th>
<th>Jesus Gives An Example Showing How and For What We Should Pray</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Mat 6:7 "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. | Luk 11:2 And He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come."
| Mat 6:8 "So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. | Luk 11:3 'Give us each day our daily bread."
| Mat 6:9 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. | Luk 11:4 'And forgive us our sins, For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.'"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Parable of The Friend At Midnight</th>
<th>Be Persistent In Praying To The Father</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Luk 11:5 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;" | Luk 11:9 "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."
| Luk 11:6 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.' | Luk 11:10 "For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened."
| Luk 11:8 "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. | Luk 11:11 "Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he?

---

### Luke 11:2
And He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come.'

### Luke 11:3
'Give us each day our daily bread.'

### Luke 11:4
'And forgive us our sins, For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.'

### Matthew 6:7
"And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.

### Matthew 6:8
"So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

### Matthew 6:9
"Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.'

### Luke 11:5
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;"

### Luke 11:6
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.'

### Luke 11:7
"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.

### Luke 11:8
"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.
Be Persistent In Praying To The Father

Luk 11:12 "Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he?
Luk 11:13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

Mat 7:11 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!
Mat 7:12 "In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

1Th 5:16 Rejoice always;
1Th 5:17 pray without ceasing;
1Th 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Col 1:9 For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
Col 1:10 so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
Col 1:11 strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously
Col 1:12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.
Col 1:13 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,
Col 1:14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
We Must Also Pray In Faith, According To God’s Will and Unselfishly

Mar 11:23 "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him.

Mar 11:24 "Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you.

We Must Also Pray In Faith, According To God’s Will and Unselfishly

1Jn 3:21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;
1Jn 3:22 and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.

We Must Also Pray In Faith, According To God’s Will and Unselfishly

Jas 4:1 What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?
Jas 4:2 You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.
We Must Also Pray In Faith, According To God’s Will and Unselfishly

Jas 4:3  You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.
Jas 4:4  You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.