

## Luke 11:5-13 **Persistence in Prayer – Ask – Seek – Knock**

<sup>5</sup> 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; <sup>6</sup> for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; <sup>7</sup> 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'? <sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> "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.

<sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup> If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> 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!" NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

- ✚ Jesus used the illustration of the man with an urgent need asking for help from his neighbor and refuses to be turned away. [Luke 11:5-8]
- ✧ Then He tied it to the persistence God desires for our fervent prayer life.
- ✚ Jesus commanded us to ask, seek, and knock to receive from God. [Matthew 7:7, Luke 11:9]
- ✧ The best gifts from God to mankind are available for the asking.
- ✧ Jesus compares God's willingness to give good gifts to His Saints, to a human father's willingness to give good gifts to his own son who asks. [Matthew 7:9, Luke 11:11-13]
- ✧ With the promise of Jesus that your Father who is in Heaven will give good things to those who ask Him.
- ✧ If we desire the knowledge of God, wisdom of God, understanding of God, and a close loving relationship with God, then He invites us to ask, seek, and knock, and we will receive the request we seek.
- ✧ The best gift we are able to desire from God, is the gift of the **Holy Spirit** which God is eager to give us if we ask.
- ✧ It is the Holy Spirit Who opens our mind and heart to receive knowledge, wisdom, and understanding, Who reveals the fullness of Christ, God's love, to those who believe. [John 14:26, 15:26, 16:13, Job 38:36, Psalm 111:10, Proverbs 2:6]

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! [Matthew 7:11, Luke 11:13]

- ✧ However if we are selfish in our requests, we need to know that:  
You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. [James 4:3-5]
- ✧ Therefore, be careful to seek and ask for the good gifts from God, and not for worldly things that we desire to give us earthly pleasures.

✚ Then we may be assured of the promise: "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened" [\[Matthew 7:8, Luke 11:10\]](#)