



Home Group study: week beginning 19th February 2023

TITLE: Parables – stories to live by: Persistent neighbour

PASSAGE: Luke 11:5-13

Leaders Notes:

- *Please use these questions as conversation starters to aid discussions. Please don't feel obligated to go through all the questions.*
- *After the reading I always like to consider asking 'what immediately stands out in the passage?'*

Introduction

A parable is a fictitious story told by Jesus to help people understand important messages regarding aspects of faith. The parable that we are going to study is called 'Parable of the Friend at Midnight'. It follows the Lord's Prayer.

Read scripture Luke 11 5-13

Discussion starters

1. There are two characters in this parable who do you think they represent?
2. In verse 8 Jesus says that we get what we want when we demonstrate Shameless Audacity, and I used the word 'Importunate' which means persistent, especially to the point of annoyance. Does that challenge the way you may think about praying, and if so, how?
3. Discuss the kinds of things that might stop you from praying with Shameless Audacity.
4. In verse 9 & 10 Jesus says we are to Ask, Seek & Knock what does this mean?

Consider:

Ask involves merely making a request.

Seek implies a more intense interest in obtaining something.

Knock implies action with a purpose.

5. In verses 2-4 we find the Lord's Prayer. How might the parable be linked to this prayer?

6. Read verse 13 again. What encouragement can we take from that?

7. (Optional Reading) **Luke 18 1-6** 'The parable of the persistent widow' compare and contrast the two parables that deliver a similar message.

Pray:

- Pray that God will give you your 'daily bread'
- Pray that God will show you his Will for you
- Pray for spiritual gifts – (1 Corinthians 12 4-11)
- Pray that God may help you demonstrate Fruits of the spirit – (Galatians 5 22-24)