

**December 3, 2017**

## **Learning to Pray Like Jesus**

Sermon Topic: Learning to Ask Your Father

John 14:13–14 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. (ESV)

John 15:7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. (ESV)

John 16:23–24 In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. (ESV)

Mark 11:24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. (ESV)

Matthew 21:22 And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.” (ESV)

Introduction – My prayer struggle enacted

Striking the proper balance in our prayer life:

Either,

1. **We are so discouraged we no longer ask, or**
2. **We ask selfishly for the wrong motives.** James 4:2–3 You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. (ESV)

To correct that we need to:

3. **Ask boldly whether we know it is God’s will or not while being content to submit to whatever is God’s will.**

Examples:

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

Shadrach Meshach and Abednego approaching the fiery furnace

4. **Draw increasingly closer to God (by abiding) so we hear what the Spirit is saying.** John 15:7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. (ESV)

5. **Pray in Jesus' name.** John 14:13–14 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. (ESV) illustrate with Paul's illustration. Add, it must be in line with his will to come in his authority. Therefore,
  
6. **Pray in His will as much as you can know it.**
  1. **Know it.** Ephesians 5:17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. (ESV)
  2. **How? By having your mind transformed.** Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (ESV)
  3. **To Give thanks.** 1 Thessalonians 5:18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (ESV)
  4. **To be sexually pure.** 1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; (ESV)
  5. **To do good to others.** 1 Peter 2:15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. (ESV)
  6. **To live out everything Jesus tells us to in the Sermon on the Mount.**
  7. **Pray the Lord's Prayer confidently.**
    - i. Pray for His Kingdom to come: in other's lives, your own life, and the world around us.
    - ii. Ask for your daily bread. This literally means ask for tomorrow's bread today. Show me Lord your generosity. Illustration of Korean orphans.

#### Application

1. Pray for little things this week. God even cares about parking places and sales at stores.
2. Pray confidently, knowing the Spirit intercedes for you Romans 8:27

And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (ESV)