

Desperate Prayers: The Faith of Prevailing Prayer

Luke 11:1-13

2026.01.18

Icebreaker: Share a high/low from the past couple of weeks

STUDY GUIDE

Read Luke 11:1-13

Each person share about one of the following questions:

- What did you like about this passage?
- What didn't you like or made you uncomfortable about this passage?
- What didn't you understand about this passage?
- What does this passage teach us about Jesus?

Prevailing Prayer is where we cling to God, in humility and boldness, until he responds...a kind of prayer that moves God to action.

- When you hear "Prevailing Prayer" what words or images come to mind?
- What part of that definition challenges or encourages you the most?
- How was prayer modeled for you growing up—more quiet and personal, or bold and persistent?

Reread Luke 11:7-8

- What gets the man out of bed? Discuss the implications that God in this parable wouldn't answer prayer based on relationship, but on how the person prays.
- What speaks to you about this?

The 20th Century Revivalist, Leonard Ravenhill, said "God doesn't answer prayer; He answers desperate prayer."

- How do you respond emotionally to the words "desperation in prayer"?
- Looking at Scripture and church history, why do you think seasons of revival are often preceded by desperate prayer?
- Isaiah 64:7 speaks of "stirring ourselves up to take hold of God.": What would it look like for you to "stir yourself up" in this season?

The sermon emphasized that prevailing prayer requires time, stillness, and focus.

- How would you honestly describe your current prayer life: routine, distracted, persistent, desperate, or somewhere in between?
- What competes most with that kind of prayer in your life?
- What is one situation that you sense God may be inviting you to prevail in prayer over? (personal, church-wide, cultural, ...)

