

you Don't Have To Beg God

Luke 11:1-13

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Intro. **A.** Prayer, to some people, is simply begging God.

1. Prayer vigils 24 hours a day.
2. Jacob and wrestling with an angel.
3. Every Televangelist has such a testimony.

B. Still others teach that we should bully God.

1. He is a covenant God, hold Him to it.
2. He is our Father, He should do it.
3. God must use His children as examples of His power to bless.

C. What does the Bible teach?

1. What do these verses teach us?
2. Forget logic and sentimentality.

I. The Occasion For These Words Of Jesus.

A. Jesus had come to a "certain place".

Vs. 1 1. "... as he was praying".

2. "... one of his disciples said unto him, Lord:
teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples".

3. "teach" = διδάσκω = "to give instruction or direction"

B. The request examined.

1. The request was made by a disciple, a learner".

2. The request was for a specific kind of praying".
"as John taught his disciples".

3. Jesus had been praying and he did not say, "as you have been praying, but as John..."

4. How had John taught his followers?

5. Surely it was different in some respect.

IV. The Truth About Prayer.

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A. "And I say unto you..."

- Vs. 9
1. "Ask" = αἰτέω = "to entreat", "to supplicate".
Implies a difference in the parties, inferior to superior.
 2. "seek" = ζητέω = "look for", "strive to find"
 3. "knock" = κρούω = "to rap, as at a door".

B. The way this works.

- Vs. 10
1. "For every one that asketh receiveth".
 2. "... he that seeketh findeth".
 3. "to him that knocketh it shall be opened".

C. The way of a father, not a friend.

- Vs. 11
1. "If a son shall bread..." "stone".
 2. "if he ask a fish..." "serpent".
- Vs. 12
3. "if he shall ask an egg" "scorpion".

V. The Final Explanation.

A. "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children..."

1. We, who are on earth, have an evil nature.
2. yet, in spite of this, we can give good gifts.

B. "how much more shall your heavenly father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him"?

1. Our heavenly Father is perfect.
2. What would a perfect spiritual Father give to His spiritual children.
3. Spiritual things, of course.
4. The fruit of the Spirit.

Gal. 5: 22-23

5. He will give you all of these that you desire. Love, Joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.
6. Don't ask for more, ask to be better!