

JESUS: MAN OF PRAYER
Luke 11:1-13

Introduction:

1. It is a tragedy to be alienated from God without the privilege of prayer.
2. It is a greater tragedy to have the privilege, but not know how to pray.
3. The greatest tragedy is to have the privilege and knowledge, but not use it!

“The world has lost the right of prayer, and saints have failed to pray. What loss sustained beyond repair! How blind of heart are they!”

4. Jesus was the Son of God, yet He prayed without ceasing.
 - a. Why did He find it necessary to pray?
 - b. If Jesus needed prayer, what about me?

Discussion:

- I. JESUS GAVE A MODEL PRAYER (Luke 11:2-4).
 - A. He gave an example to follow, not a rote prayer to be repeated.
 - B. It is addressed to God.
 1. God is our loving Father Who delights to give His children what they need (Luke 11:11-13).
 2. We can “cast all our cares upon Him for He cares for us” (1 Pet. 5:7).
 - C. It praises and exalts God.
 1. God’s name must be “hallowed” (reverenced).
 2. God holds those guilty who take His name in vain (Ex. 20:7).
 - D. It is in submission to God.
 1. “Your kingdom come, your will be done.”
 2. Jesus said: “I have come down from Heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him Who sent Me” (John 6:38).
 3. He prayed, “Your will be done” (Matt. 26:39, 42).
 - E. It asks for the basic needs of life.
 1. “Our daily bread” is a synecdoche for our necessities.
 2. It seeks God’s blessings one day at a time (Matt. 6:34).
 3. The manna was supplied one day at a time (Ex. 16:16-21).
 - F. It seeks forgiveness for sin.

1. We all stand in need of forgiveness daily (1 John 1:8-10).
2. Forgiveness is conditioned upon being willing to forgive (Matt. 6:14,15).

G. It seeks deliverance from temptation.

1. Satan uses man's desires to tempt him (James 1:13-15).
2. If we resist the devil, he will flee from us (James 4:7).

II. JESUS SET AN EXAMPLE OF PRAYER.

A. Jesus prayed at His baptism (Luke 3:21, 22).

1. He was about to begin His public ministry.
2. A Christian's prayer life should begin at his baptism.

B. Jesus prayed all night before selecting His apostles (Luke 6:12,13).

1. This was a decision with far reaching consequences.
2. We should never make life decisions without seeking God's counsel (Josh. 9:14).

C. Jesus withdrew from the crowds to pray (Luke 5:15,16).

1. He was constantly surrounded by people and their needs.
2. He had to have time to rejuvenate spiritually.

D. Jesus prayed before eating.

1. He gave thanks before feeding the multitude (Mark 8:1-10).
2. He gave thanks at Emmaus (Luke 24:30).

E. Jesus prayed on the Mount of Transfiguration (Luke 9:28,29).

1. His appearance was changed while He prayed.
2. Ian Maclaren wrote: "If we live more habitually in the secret place of the Most High, our faces would often seem like those of angels, and a pure and quiet heart would make itself seen there."

F. Jesus prayed in Gethsemane (Luke 22:39-46).

1. He was facing the agony of the cross on the morrow.
2. He would also be carrying the sins of the world.

G. Jesus prayed for others.

1. He prayed for Peter (Luke 22:31-34).
2. He prayed for all His apostles (John 17:6-9).
3. He prayed for us (John 17:20,21).

H. Jesus prayed for those who crucified Him (Luke 23:34).

1. They were ignorant of the magnitude of their crime.
2. They were forgiven when they repented and obeyed the Gospel (Acts 2:36-38).

Conclusion:

1. Jesus' power to overcome came from prayer.
 - a. He was God's Son, but He was also human (Phil. 2:5-8).
 - b. He was tempted in every way as we are (Heb. 4:15).
2. In order to be like Jesus, we must imitate His prayer life.
3. Prayer is a privilege God has given to His children.
4. Become a child of God today so that you may call upon Him as your Father (John 3:3-5).