

## BOLD PRAYER

June 16, 2013 Luke 11:5-13 by Bob Branch  
Connecting With God Thru Prayer, Part 9

**MAIN IDEA:** God invites us into an interactive lifestyle of bold asking and receiving as his means of expressing his generosity and love.

... yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need. **Luke 11:5-8**

### 1. Jesus is teaching them/us that effective prayer has a kind of **SHAMELESS BOLDNESS** and **AUDACITY**.

"O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly. **Matthew 15:28** ESV (15:22-28; Lk. 7:24-30)

A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. **Mt. 8:2-3**

Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment. **Matthew 9:20-22**

<sup>9</sup> "So I say to you: **Ask** and it will be given to you; **seek** and you will find; **knock** and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. **Luke 11:9-10**

### 2. God invites us into a **HABITUAL LIFESTYLE** of asking, and a commitment to faith-filled **PERSISTENCE**.

**Lifestyle:**

**Persistence:**

**ASK:** *Make requests of God, interactively*

**Philippians 4:6** (Luke 18:1-8; Esther 4-5)

**SEEK:** *To search for, try to find*—His kingdom, will, counsel, perspective, empowering, release, justice for others, the lost.

"Now devote your heart and soul to seeking the LORD your God." **1 Chronicles 22:19** (Is. 55:6; Jer. 29:13; Acts 17:27)

"I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears." **Psalms 34:4** (Heb. 11:6)

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." **Matthew 6:33**

**KNOCK:** *Something needs to be opened.* A heart, mind, family, way, mission field, neighborhood.

"they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles." **Acts 14:27** (Acts 16:25-26)

"Pray for us, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains." **Colossians 4:3** (1 Cor. 16:9; 2 Cor. 2:12)

<sup>11</sup> "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" **Luke 11:5-13**

### 3. The invitation to ask, seek and knock is built of God's **GOODNESS** and **GENEROSITY**.

"If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking." **James 1:5** NLT

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." **Romans 8:28** (1 Chronicles 16:34; Rom. 8:31-32)

"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." **Phil. 1:6**

**Give the HOLY SPIRIT...** means?

**The Holy Spirit**—(Acts 2:38; 10:45; John 16:13)

**Spiritual gifts** (1 Cor. 14:1, 12; 12:1, 4; 1 Pet. 4:10)

**Good gifts**—(James 1:17; Matthew 7:11)