

**The Parable of the
Friend at Midnight:**

Luke 11:5-8

Outline

✓ Introduction

✓ Background to Luke 11

✓ Explanation of the Parable

✓ Application of the Parable

✓ Conclusion/Invitation

BACKGROUND OF THE PARABLE

Verse 5- A householder is called by his friend at midnight, knocking on his door.

Verse 6- His friend had an unexpected guest (friend), who had lost his way. The friend had no food for his guest. To acquire some, the friend turns to the householder and asks for 3 loaves of bread.

Verse 7- At first, the householder, who had retired for the evening and was sleeping with family, refused his friend.

Verse 8- As a result, the friend continually pleads, and eventually, the householder agrees to help.

EXPLANATION OF THE PARABLE

PARABLE

EXPLANATION

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| ▪ HOUSEHOLDER | • GOD |
| ▪ ASKING FRIEND | • US |
| ▪ REQUEST FOR BREAD (NEED) | • OUR PRAYERS FOR NECESSITIES |
| ▪ RELATIONSHIP –PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP | • RELATIONSHIP- FAMILIAL WITH GOD |
| ▪ TIME- INCONVENIENT FOR MAN | • TIME- NOT AN INCONVENIENCE |
| ▪ THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE ANSWER | • GOD FREELY ANSWERS PRAYERS ACCORDING AS WE NEED |
| ▪ IMPORTUNITY GAINED THE RESPONSE | • IMPORTUNITY GAINS GOD’S RESPONSE |

APPLICATION #1

Christians must be hospitable.

- Under Jewish Law, showing hospitality was a legal obligation: Genesis 18:1-5
- Qualification of Bishops: 1 Timothy 3:2-- “given to”
- Duty of the church: Romans 12:13-- “given to”
- 1 Peter 4:9: “**Use** hospitality **one to another** without **grudging.**”

APPLICATION #2

Christians must be importune (persistence driven by urgency) in prayer.

- **Barnes**, “troublesome perseverance, continual disturbance, refusal to be denied.” **1 Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1**
- **Abraham’s Intercession for Sodom/Gomorrah in Genesis 18:23-33—50 souls 10**
- **If we are unwilling to display our importunity, are we really in need? Are we really in need of what we are asking for?**

APPLICATION #3

Christians must not get discouraged; God promises to answer prayers.

- God will not give us harmful or useless things as the answer to our prayers. OUR ANSWER IS ALWAYS “as much as he needed” not 3 loaves. **Philippians 4:19**
- **Jeremiah 29:12; 1 John 5:14**
- If we are unwilling to display our importunity, are we really in need? Are we really in need of what we are asking for?

APPLICATION OF THE PARABLE

- Christians must be hospitable.
 - Under Jewish Law, hospitality to guest was a legal obligation. (Genesis 18:1-5)
 - Qualification 1 Timothy 3:2---Duty of the Romans 12:13--1 Peter 4:9
- Christians must be importune (persistence driven by urgency) in prayer.
 - **Barnes**, “troublesome perseverance, continual disturbance, refusal to be denied.”
 - Abraham’s Intercession for S/G in Genesis 18:23-33—50 souls reduced to 10
 - If we are unwilling to display our importunity, are we really in **need**? Are we really in need of **what** we are asking for? Luke 18:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- Christians must not get discouraged; God promises to answer prayers-
 - Matthew Henry**, “We prevail with men by importunity because they are displeased, but with God because he is pleased.”
 - God won’t give us harmful or useless things as the answer to our prayer.
 - ANSWER: “as much as he needed” not 3 loaves. Philippians 4:19
 - Jeremiah 29:12; 1 John 5:14

CONCLUSION

Matthew Henry, “We prevail with men by importunity because they are displeased, but with God because he is pleased.”

1) Ask in prayer 2) believe you will receive AND 3) it will be yours. **Mark 11:24**

INVITATION

LOST

- HEAR Romans 10:17
- BELIEVE John 3:16
- REPENT Luke 13:3
- CONFESS Romans 10:10
- BE BAPTIZED Acts 2:38

SECOND LAW OF PARDON

• ACTS 8:22 1 JOHN 1:9

– REPENT

– CONFESS SINS TO GOD

– PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS