

***Growing as Disciples and Stewards
Living In and Living Out God's Grace
June 2019
Pray***

Date to post: June 3

Date of Luke 11:1-4 in Worship: June 16

Introductory Comments

Prayer: a conversation with God

Listening to God's voice in the Bible

Speaking to God: a full range of possibilities

Definition of "disciple" is passing on a life from one to another

Prayer is a place where that "life" relationship happens and is nurtured

When shall we pray? Yes!

What is the best time for you?

A day is sanctified "at the edges"

Join nature in praising the Creator at sunrise/sunset

What shall we say in prayer?

No limit: from lament to praise

Daily Prayer liturgies provide an intentional structure for prayer

Prayer is a unique emphasis in Gospel of Luke

Disciple Prayer Bible Study: Luke 11:1-4

Luke 11:1-4 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."

² He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

Prayer in Luke: Lord, teach us to pray

Please look up each of these prayers in Luke (* = a prayer unique to Luke)

What does this text say to you about prayer?

Personal/Communal Application

- *3:21 Jesus' baptism

- *5:16 withdraw from crowds

- *6:12 on mountain, chose 12

- *9:18 with disciples

- *9:28 Transfiguration

- *11:1 Lord's Prayer

- *18:1 pray always

- *18:10 2 prayers

- 20:47 pray for sake of appearance

- 22:41 Mount of Olives

- Acts 9:11 Saul

- Acts 10:2, 9 Peter and Cornelius

- Acts 13:1-3 First Missionary Journey

Personal story: How did you learn to pray?

The Lord's Prayer

Please share a time when praying the Lord's Prayer was especially meaningful for you.

Tools for Prayer: Liturgy cards

Morning Prayer

Evening Prayer

Night Prayer

Steward Bible Study: Luke 3:8-14

Luke 3:8-14 Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?"¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise."¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?"¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you."¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

Context: Response to the Word

Luke 3:2	the word of God came to John
Luke 3:3	proclaiming a baptism of repentance
Luke 3:8	bear fruits worthy of repentance
Luke 3:10-14	What should we do?
	Crowds: share
	Tax collectors: collect no more
	Soldiers: do not extort, be satisfied

Listening to the Word

Repent: "to turn (back), to change our mind"
What "turns" or "changes" is God calling us to?

How will that "turn" be expressed?

Share

Literally "give, distribute"
Coats and food
Who has 2 coats? Who has 1 coat?

How shall we share?

Collect no more

Greed: the "desire for more"
How much is enough?

Extort: "Shake down" = use of power

Contentment: How is it possible to be "content with whatever I have?"
(Philippians 4:11)

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."
(Philippians 4:13)

What is the connection between Discipleship (Pray) and Stewardship (Give)?