

**Listening Guide**  
**Sunday, March 3, 2019**  
***The Essentials of Effective Prayer***  
Scott Stephens  
***Text: Luke 11:1-13***

**Luke 11:1-4** - Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” <sup>2</sup> And he said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread,  
<sup>4</sup> and forgive us our sins,  
for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.  
And lead us not into temptation.”

**Prayer-**

“In our prayer we express our reverence and adoration for God. We bear our souls in contrite confession before him and we offer our petition and supplications to Him.” Prayer is conversation with an almighty and loving God who has providential care over us.

**Ineffective Prayer:**

- The One Who Does Not Pray
- Vague Prayer
- Cold Prayer
- Self-Centered/ Selfish Prayer
- Hypocritical/Proud Prayer

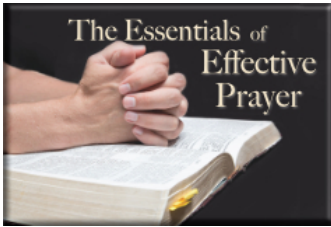
**Effective Prayer:** Prayer needs to be about your desire to be in alignment with God, His will and His purpose for your life.

- Jesus glorifies God in this prayer.
- Jesus is specific in his requests.
- Jesus has purpose for this prayer and it aligns with Gods will for Him and those He is praying for.
- That Jesus is dependent upon God for His protection and His will to be done. He knows that God will answer His prayers.

**Additional Notes to Remember as We Pray:**

When we approach God in prayer, we do it with sincerity, reverence and with humility.

God asks us to be earnest and fervent in our requests, but they should always be with the perspective that “His will be done,” not ours.



**Application Guide**  
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**Home Group Questions**

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Home groups meet weekly and will provide you an opportunity to review the message, and to apply it to your life personally. Also, thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the truths we are learning.

**Large Group**

1. Was there any passage of scripture or statement in the message today that was particularly meaningful or applicable to you?

**Small Group**

2. Read **Mark 11:24**. Discuss how this verse can be misused or misunderstood. How do you think Jesus meant for us to understand it? (Make sure to read the context around this verse).
3. Discuss with the group a time when you believe your prayer impacted a particular circumstance in your life.
4. Read **Matthew 6:9-11**. Discuss the components of prayer and how you specifically use them in your personal prayer. Compare this to our text in Luke 11.
5. Read **Luke 18:11-13**. Discuss the verse. How do these two prayers guide us to how we should pray today?
6. **Discuss this in your group. How can this quote help you to understand effective prayer?**  
"Remember, the Lord will not hear you because of the number of people listening to your prayers, the eloquent language in which they are conveyed, the length of your prayers, the *music* of your prayers, or the logic of your prayers. But he will hear you, and he will measure the amount of the blessing he will give you, according to the divinity of your prayers. If you can plead the person of Christ, and if the Holy Spirit inspires you with zeal and earnestness, the blessings which you shall ask, will surely come to you."