

27—Prayer and the Pharisees

Luke 11:1-13, 37-54



1. Do people just naturally learn how to pray or is this a taught practice (Luke 11:1)? Is there a right and wrong way to pray (James 4:3; 1 John 5:14-15)?
2. What are some of the basic practices and concepts about prayer we can learn to apply to our own prayer life from the prayer found in Luke 11:2-4?
3. Jesus uses an illustration to teach an important principle about our prayer life. What is the illustration and what principle is he teaching in Luke 11:5-8?
4. Are we to think the “friend” in this illustration of Jesus is like God or is God different (Luke 11:9-13)? How can this follow-up explanation comfort and encourage us in prayer?

5. What New Testament passages about prayer encourage you?

6. As Jesus dines with the Pharisees, what do they immediately notice about Jesus (Luke 11:37-38)? What does Jesus say about the Pharisees' focus (11:39-40)? In what ways might we see this Pharisaical habit show up in our own lives?

7. *Three "woes" are spoken to the Pharisees in Luke 11:42-44.* In verse 42, what problem does Jesus note and address as Pharisaical?

8. *Three "woes" are spoken to the Pharisees in Luke 11:42-44.* In verse 43, what problem does Jesus note and warn about with the Pharisees?

9. *Three "woes" are spoken to the Pharisees in Luke 11:42-44.* In verse 44, what point is Jesus making about the Pharisees (see Numbers 19:16)?

10. How did the "lawyers" feel about what Jesus had said (Luke 11:45)? Even so, what are the three additional "woes" Jesus continues to communicate and how do the "scribes and Pharisees" react as His accusations are made public (11:46-54)?