

Portraits of Christ from Luke
Clear Teaching on Prayer
Luke 18:1-17

Review

Jesus is painted as one who cared for the poor, outcast
 Included women and foreigners. He reached out to lost as a Savior
 Today - He revealed the secret of His power - prayer

Prayer

Word - prayer, praying etc. -- 545 times. 450 prayers recorded
 Paul spoke of it 41 times - 25 prayers of Jesus recorded

In Luke's Gospel Jesus taught clearly on prayer

I. He taught by example

More recorded prayers and times of prayer in Luke

- 3:21-22** At his baptism **5:16** In the wilderness
- 6:12** On a mountain **9:18** Alone praying
- 9:28-29** On mountain with Peter, James and John
- 10:21-22** Prayed with thanksgiving
- 11:1** Praying when disciples ask him to teach
- 22:31-32** Prayer for Peter **22:41-44** Prayer at Gethsemane
- 23:32** Prayed to forgive those who crucified Him
- 23:46** Prayed when giving His life

He prayed alone, with others, for others, overnight, regularly

II. He taught by Model **Luke 11:1-13**

- Focus of Prayer is on God not us** **11:1-4**
- A. God's Name be honored** -God's Glory
- B. God's Kingdom come** -God's will
- C. God's provisions given** -God's omnipresence - present needs
- D. God's forgiveness granted** -To us as we forgive others- past
- E. God's deliverance provided** -God's guidance - future needs

*Oswald Smith said: When we work, we work
 When we pray, God works*

- F. God's Plan of prayer revealed** **11:5-13**
- God is more gracious than our neighbors
- God is waiting for us to ask, seek and knock
- God is more loving than a father to his own son

III. He taught by precept **Luke 18:1-17**
A. Pray with persistence **18:1-8**
 Clear purpose - at you pray at all times and not lose heart

Unjust Judge and widow	God and us
No fear of God or man	Deep love for us
Court of law	Throne of Grace
Unjust	Holy and Just
Stranger to one another	Children of God
Reluctant to grant wish	Delights in caring for us
Granted from limited funds	Gives from the riches of Christ
Wore down by persistence	Responds to our faith

B. Pray with repentant heart **Luke 18:9-14**

- Parable of Pharisee and the tax collector
- Purpose stated - some thought they were righteous
- 1. Pharisee failed in prayer (he prayed to himself) because**
 Appealed to self-righteousness (led to contempt)
 Used external standards instead of heart conditions
 Thanked God for what he was not what God did
- 2. Tax collector's prayer was granted because**
 Expressed sorrow for sin (beat breast)
 Humbled himself before God
 Confessed his need for forgiveness

C. Pray with total dependence up God **Luke 18:15-17**

Charles Spurgeon once said, "We must not think a child cannot come to God until he is like a man, but a man cannot come until he is like a child. We must grow down until we become like a child."

- 1. Comprehensive Trust
- 2. Candid Humility
- 3. Complete Receptivity
- 4. Certain love

Look at Jesus, the very Son of God
If he needed to pray - we certainly do

- Follow His example - pray regularly alone with God**
- Follow His model - focus prayer upon God's will not our want**
- Follow His precepts**
- Persistence
- Repentant heart
- Total dependence