

Reflection Questions: Luke 11:1-13

For the message, "Shameless Boldness in Prayer" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on November 22, 2020

These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages.

INTRODUCTION

Pray. Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

Read the Scripture text: Luke 11:1-13

1 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." **2** And 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 who is indebted to us.
And lead us not into temptation."

5 And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, **6** for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; **7** and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? **8** I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. **9** And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. **10** For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. **11** What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; **12** or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? **13** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

A summary of the message: Jesus teaches us to pray with shameless boldness as if our heavenly Father could not refuse.

QUESTIONS

1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.

- In your own words, how would you summarize the central point that Jesus is trying to get across to his disciples?
- How would my life be enriched by aligning my character with the vision of this text? What wrong thoughts result when we forget this truth about prayer? About God?

2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.

- What comes to your mind when you imagine a group of Jesus' followers praying with shameless boldness? What kind of things might change for us? For our Life Group? For Mercy Hill?
- How is this text inviting us to participate in a community that exists for something greater than our own wants and needs? What kind of community is this text calling us to become for the sake of the world?

3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.

- What questions do you think people in our city would ask of this teaching?
- How does this text serve as Good News for those outside the faith? What kind of new life / future in Christ is this text calling our city to experience?

CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

- _____
- _____
- _____