

Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

SSBC Luke Bible Study #39

Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.

Passage: Luke 11:1-4

Sermon Date: June 18, 2006

Introduction:

I had a wonderful conversation with my older sister this evening. Her cheerful "Hello" paved the way into a warm conversation on a chilly, rainy evening. We commiserated about the heavy rains outside in both our towns (200 miles apart), then caught up on the latest happenings in her life. She is going through chemotherapy and her brother-in-law died this week. As she shared about these burdens, we began to compare notes about what we've each been learning lately about God and how to experience him at a deeper level. This isn't something she and I had talked about much until recently.

What is the secret to meaningful conversation with family members? How about with God? Is there a certain pattern? Or is it more about the heart – one's authenticity and compassion? This is perhaps what the disciple in Luke 11:1 wants to know. He watched Jesus praying, and when Jesus was through, he asked him for a lesson on how to pray. As you begin this study, take a minute to tell Jesus the question or burden that's on your heart, and to ask him to guide you to the truth that you need to hear.

This bible study was developed by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. To hear a sermon on the same scripture passage covered in this bible study, come to one of our Sunday worship services (8:30am or 11:00am) on the date listed on page 1. Or after that date you can hear it by logging on to www.southshorebaptist.com/sermons/

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Bible Study Passage:

1. First read the whole passage (Luke 11:1-4) a number of times, and note your observations & questions below.

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p>¹ One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”</p> <p>² He said to them, “When you pray, say:</p> <p>“Father,^a</p> <p>hallowed be your name,</p> <p>your kingdom come.^b</p> <p>³ Give us each day our daily bread.</p> <p>⁴ Forgive us our sins,</p> <p>for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.^c</p> <p>And lead us not into temptation.^d”</p> <p>a Some manuscripts <i>Our Father in heaven</i></p> <p>b Some manuscripts <i>come. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.</i></p> <p>c Greek <i>everyone who is indebted to us</i></p> <p>d Some manuscripts <i>temptation but deliver us from the evil one</i></p>	

Dig Deeper:

2. How is Jesus in Luke 11:1 an example for us to follow?
3. What did Jesus do when his disciple asked him to teach him to pray?
4. What would you do if someone asked you to teach them to pray? If you feel unprepared, what can you do to get ready to help someone?
5. Compare Luke 11:1-4 with Mt 6:9-15 and note the contexts. Are these the same event? What similarities and differences do you see?
6. Do you think this prayer is intended to be repeated verbatim (word-for-word) or more as a template for prayer?

A. [Our] Father [in heaven]

Jesus sometimes referred to God using the Aramaic word “abba” (see Mark 14:36) which is the intimate term children would use to address their father (like our term “Daddy”). What was the significance of Jesus addressing God so intimately, as his Father?

How frequently did Jesus address God as “Father”? The Greek word used in the gospels is “Pater” (Pa-TAIR). Look up “Father” in a concordance and see how often it appears in the gospels – or just skim through John looking for “Father.” Read Luke 2:49, Luke 23:46, and Acts 1:4 and note how Jesus used this term all throughout his life.

On what basis can we also call God our “Father”?
(Consider Jn 1:12-13, Rom 8:14-15, 2 Cor 6:18, Gal 4:7-8, 1 John 3:1)

Though the Old Testament provides many rich names and titles for God, the New Testament reveals him most fully. Jesus, in fact, shocked and offended the religious leaders of his day by claiming that he had a Father/Son relationship with the God whose name they feared to even pronounce. Furthermore, by inviting his followers to call God “Father,” he made this the primary name by which God is to be known by his followers. That’s why we can boldly pray the prayer Jesus taught his disciples, “Our Father who art in heaven ...” (Ann Spangler, Praying the Names of God, p. 317)

Write a sentence that briefly describes an aspect of how you see God as your Father.

B. Hallowed be (holy is) your name

What is the significance of God’s name? (Consider Isa 25:1, 29:23, 57:15, Dan 2:20)

On the other hand, what are we warned about regarding God’s name? (See Exodus 20:7, Deut 28:58-59)

God is referred to by a number of names in the Bible. Some are listed below. Explore a few by looking at the verses listed.

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| Almighty (Gen 17:1) | Judge (Ge 18:25) |
| Eternal God (Dt 33:27) | Living God (Jos 3:10) |
| Father of Lights (Jas 1:17) | Lord Almighty (1 Sam 1:11) |
| Heavenly Father (Mt 6:26) | Lord of lords (Dt 10:17) |
| Holy One of Israel (Ps 71:22) | Most High (Dt 32:8) |
| I AM (Ex 3:14) | Lord God (1 Ch 29:10, Mt 6:9) |
| Jehovah, or Yahwey (Ex 6:3) | Our Strength (Ex 15:2) |

What do you observe about the nature and breadth of these names?

Write a sentence expressing what you know or how you feel about God’s name.

C. Your kingdom come [May your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven]

What is your current understanding of the significance of God's kingdom coming? (some helpful verses include Dan 2:44, Mk 9:1, Acts 2:2-4, Rev 11:15-17)

Write a sentence relating what you know or how you feel about the certainty of God's ultimate victory.

D. Give us each day our daily bread

How is God involved in providing for us? Consider Ps 37:4, 145:16-19, Luke 11:9-13, Rom 8:32, and Php 4:19. What can we count on God to provide?

Note also God's name "Jehovah Jireh" – "the Lord will Provide" – from Genesis 22:8, 14 (remember Abraham and Isaac on the mountain?)

Write a sentence asking God to take care of your daily needs.

E. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us

God assures us of his forgiveness in 1 John 1:9 and elsewhere. What is our part in this process?

Write a sentence expressing your need for forgiveness and the ability to forgive others.

F. And lead us not into temptation [but deliver us from the evil one]

How do temptations give us an opportunity to move into closer fellowship with Christ? (consider Heb 2:18, 4:15-16)

What counsel and examples are we given about resisting temptations? (Ps 119:9-11, Mt 4:1-11, 1 Cor 10:13, Heb 12:3-4)

Write a sentence expressing how you want God to help you deal with temptations.
