05-24-2026

**WEEK 2**
**Teach Us to Pray**
**"Barriers to Prayer"**
**Luke 11:3–8**

**POINT I — THE BARRIER OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY**

**Exodus 16:4-- Then the Lord said to Moses, “Look, I’m going to rain down food from heaven for you. Each day the people can go out and pick up as much food as they need for that day. I will test them in this to see whether or not they will follow my instructions.**

**Exodus 16:16-20--These are the Lord’s instructions: Each household should gather as much as it needs. Pick up two quarts for each person in your tent.” 17 So the people of Israel did as they were told. Some gathered a lot, some only a little. 18 But when they measured it out, everyone had just enough. Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered only a little had enough. Each family had just what it needed. 19 Then Moses told them, “Do not keep any of it until morning.” 20 But some of them didn’t listen and kept some of it until morning. But by then it was full of maggots and had a terrible smell. Moses was very angry with them.**

**I am enough for today. And when tomorrow comes — I will be enough for that too.**

**John 6:35-- Jesus replied, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.**

**Matthew 6:31-33-- "So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' 32 These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. 33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.**
**God is not asking you to pray daily because He needs reminding of what you need. It is because He wants to care for you. Every single day. That is what love looks like.**

**POINT II — THE BARRIER OF UNFORGIVENESS**

**Mark 11:25-- But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too."**

**Unforgiveness does not punish the person who hurt you. It imprisons you.**

**Forgiveness is releasing the debt — not because they deserve it, but because you have been released from a debt you could never repay.**

**Romans 12:19-- Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the Lord**

**POINT III — THE BARRIER OF GIVING UP TOO QUICKLY**

**Luke 11:5-8--Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: "Suppose you went to a friend's house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, 6 'A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.' 7 And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, 'Don't bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can't help you.' 8 But I tell you this—though he won't do it for friendship's sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence.**

**Acts 1:12-13,14--Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile. 13 When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying… 14 They all met together and were constantly united in prayer, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.**

**Persistent prayer is the posture of someone who has decided — I trust who God is more than I trust what I can see right now. And I am not walking away from that.**

- **He asks us to come to Him daily — because He wants to be the One we trust with today.**
- **He asks us to forgive — because He loves us too much to watch bitterness slowly destroy us.**
- **He asks us to keep knocking — because He knows what is on the other side of that door. And He wants us to have it.**