

Disciples' Prayer: Conversations with Father
Luke 11:1-13, October 7th, 2018

1. Our Inspiration Vs 1

Inspired by Jesus' daily conversations with Father God, his own felt need and John's teaching his disciples to pray, a disciple asked Jesus to teach his disciples how to pray.

Our inspiration to talk to and listen to God is the Spirit filled incarnated Son of God's habitual conversations with his Father concerning his role in fulfilling Father's saving plans.

2. Our Father Vs 2a

Jesus instructed his disciples to address their prayers to Father God as his children, children whose adoption into God's family would be secured by the saving ministry Jesus would fulfill.

Since the Son of God fulfilled Father God's saving plans for us, God is now our Father too who makes our conversations with him as his children his priority.

3. Our Father's Business Vs 2b

The disciples' prayer focuses on the Father's business of turning back the darkness so more people will honour him as holy under his sovereign rule.

As children sharing in our Father's business, our conversations with Father God should have at their core conversations about his drawing others to honour him as God under his sovereign rule.

4. Our Father's Fathering Vs 3-4

The disciples' prayer requests that daily basic needs be met, forgiveness be provided as necessary along with protection from opposition resulting from being involved in the family business.

Our Father fathers us through providing basic life needs, spiritual replenishment, and protection from opposition that we ask from him as we engage in the family business with him.

5. Our Father Answers Best Vs 5-13

The disciples' prayer of bold requests is fashioned around Father God's faithfulness and generosity to give the very best in response to his children's requests.

Since Father is faithful and generous, we should fashion bold prayers in expectation that he will surely meet our needs with the very best of provisions.

Summary: Following Jesus' example, let's have bold conversations with Father about the family business knowing that as a result, we will experience his faithful and generous fathering.

Just Do It!

1. Take some time to dwell on the fact that God is your heavenly Daddy, a Dad who is pure goodness, faithful and generous. Keep dwelling on this truth until your heart is warmed! Spend some time in conversation responding to Daddy's goodness, faithfulness and generosity.
2. Think about the family business of drawing others to honour him under his sovereign rule.
 - a. Who can you bring before the Father for him to draw back the darkness so they can honour him as God under his sovereign rule?
 - b. Have a conversation with Father about them, asking him how he wants to do this and what role he has for you in drawing them.
3. Although kingdom growth is numeric in nature as more people are adopted into the family, kingdom growth also involves our maturing to be more like him, holy. (1 Peter 4:14-16) Since none of us are perfect yet, that means we should be having a conversation with him about our personal holiness. Spend some time with Father asking him what he sees in regards to your growth in holiness. In what areas is he expressing his pleasure? In what area is he less than pleased? What is he asking you to do?
4. Take some time together in a conversation with our faithful and generous Father in regards to how you each need to be fathered to keep on track with him in the family business. What are the bold things you are asking, seeking or knocking on Father's door for?