

Confident Prayer
Profound Stories – Part 3
Life Church St. Louis – November 10, 2019
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker
Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

1 John 5:14-15 (ESV) *And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.*

1. Believe prayer is _____

Luke 11:5-6 (ESV) *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, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’;*

1A. Be _____ in prayer

Luke 11:7-8 (ESV) *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?’ 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.*

1B. God _____ provides

Luke 11:9 (ESV) *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.*

Luke 11:13 (ESV) *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!”*

2. Pray _____

Luke 18:1 (ESV) *And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.*

2A. Be _____ in prayer

Luke 18:2-3 (ESV) *He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’*

2B. Pray in _____

Luke 18:7-8 (ESV) *And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”*

3. Pray with the right _____

Luke 18:9-10 (ESV) *He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.*

3A. Don’t pray with a _____ attitude

Luke 18:11-12 (ESV) *The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’*

3B. Pray with a _____ attitude

Luke 18:13-14 (ESV) *But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”*

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily time of Bible reading & prayer (Luke 11 & 18)
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend to the service next Sunday.

How will I obey God’s Word this week? _____

Confident Prayer Study Guide

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Intro. What makes prayer effective or ineffective?

Intro. What aspect of our prayer determines whether God hears us or not (1 John 5:14-15)?

Intro. What are the four main ways that we can know God's will regarding a situation?

1A. Why is it necessary to believe that our prayers will be effective (Luke 11:5-6)?

1B. Why is it important to be bold when we approach God in prayer (Luke 11:7-8, Hebrews 4:16)?

1C. What is the difference between prayer as asking, seeking or knocking (Luke 11:9)?

1D. Why do you think that Jesus singled out the Holy Spirit as a gift to be asked for (Luke 11:13, Acts 1:4-5, 14)?

1E. What does the fact that the man in the story was asking for someone else, teach us about prayer?

2A. Why did Jesus need to teach the disciples to always pray and to not lose heart (Luke 18:1)?

2B. How does Jesus' story in Luke 18:2-5 teach us to pray persistently?

2C. Explain Jesus' promise and warning in Luke 18:7-8).

2D. In what ways should we pray for justice?

3A. How might we as believers be tempted to think like this Pharisee about our own righteousness (Luke 18:9-10)?

3B. How did the Pharisee's pride influence his prayer (Luke 18:11-12)?

3C. What does it mean to be truly repentant (Luke 18:13-14)?

3D. How can improper motives and attitudes cause our prayers to be unanswered (James 4:3)?