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# Asking-Seeking-Knocking- It's Praying

Jim Bill McInteer

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"ASKING--SEEKING--KNOCKING--IT'S  
PRAYING"

Luke 11:1-13

I. In a lot of sermons I've said the church today wastes two very precious opportunities.

A. Power of the Printed Page

B. Utility of prayer.

1. It's the latter of which I now speak.

I. Jesus was asked to teach His disciples how to pray.

A. They'd seen him pray.

Luke 11:1 "And it came to pass, that, as he

1. Power of his example propelled them.

2. Power of his example constrained them --they waited til He "ceased".

B. What may we learn about prayer?

1. Bible cites positions

(a) Publican stood

Luke 18:13 "And the publican, standing

*afar off, would not lift up so much as his*

(b) Did any sit???

Job 2:8 "And he sat down among the

*Scrap c posture*

(c) Hezekiah lying down /face  
2 Kings 20:1-2 "In those days...turned

*Set face in clay  
Beseech - Remembrance how I have walked  
in truth, perfect heart, done what is good  
in thy sight - wept*

(d) Elijah has face between his legs  
(1) Earlier stood by altar  
I Kings 18:37 "Hear me O Lord, hear  
(2) On mt. another position.  
I Kings 18:42 "And he cast himself  
down.

(e) Many kneeled  
(1) Paul *wrote the Father your Lord*  
Eph. 3:14 "For this cause I bow  
(2) Solomon  
2 Chron. 6:13 "Upon it he stood, &  
kneeled.

*spread forth his hands*

(3) Leper  
Mk. 1:40 "There came a leper to Him

*beseeching him & kneeling down to him &  
saying "If thou wilt"*

(4) Stephen  
Acts 7:60 "He kneeled down, & cried

(5) Peter

Acts 9:40 "Peter put them all forth

and knelt down & prayed & turned to the body said "Tabitha arise - opened eyes saw Peter - sat up"

(6) David

Ps. 95:6 "O come, let us worship & bow.

down - let us kneel before the Lord our Maker

(7) Christ

Luke 22:41 "He was withdrawn from them.

about a stones cast, knelt down & p.

(8) Poem on prayer.

(9) We can't make all conform to what suits us.

(a) Mother told daughter first time at church--going to pray--with their clothes on!

2. Bible gives addressee and endorsement.

(a) Speak to Father

Matt. 6:6 "Pray to thy Father which

Matt. 6:9 "After this manner therefore

John 16:16

John 14:6

(b) Through Jesus

John 14:13 Whatsoever ye shall ask

(1) C.R. Nichol will you dismiss us?

"Lord dismiss us, Amen"

(a) Immediately was in aisle.

Daughter said, "It doesn't take  
father long, does it?"

(2) Always known and I prefer to say

"In Jesus name" unless like Stephen  
the prayer is addressed to Jesus.

(c) Assisted with the Holy Spirit

Rom. 8:26-27 "Like wise the Spirit  
also

3. Bible demands the attitude be right.

(a) Not selfish

(1) Lord I ask nothing for myself

but please send dear mother a son-in-law.

(2) Lord send snow to keep the flowers warm ( I fooled Him said little girl, really wanted to go sledding.)

(b) Right purpose in mind

(1) Adore

(2) Confess

(3) Thank

(4) Supplication

(c) In faith

James 1:6

(d) According to His will

Romans 8:27

Matt. 26:42

I John 5:14

West End 11/17/68

The proper way for a man to pray,

Said Deacon Lemuel Keys,

The only proper attitude,

Is down upon his knees.

No, I should say, the way to pray,

said Reverend Dr. Wise,

Is standing straight with outstretched arms,

And rapturous upturned eyes.

It seems to me his hands should be devoutly

clasped in front

With both thumbs pointing toward the ground,

said Reverend Dr. Blount.

Last year I fell in Hodkirk's well, head first

said Cyrus Brown

With both my heels sticking up;

my head pointing down.

And I made a prayer right and then,  
best prayer I ever said  
The prayingest I ever prayed,  
was standing on my head.