

## “Teach Us to Pray”

Genesis 18: 20-32

Luke 11:1-13

- Re-read the Scriptures together as a group.
- What’s the weirdest thing a friend has asked you to do with them?
- JD talked about “Trade Secrets” in the business world, from Kentucky Fried Chicken’s 7 herbs and spices to Coca-Cola’s secret formula. In today’s readings one of the disciples asked Jesus about a trade secret, the secret of prayer. He asked “Teach us to pray.” He had an idea that prayer was the foundation of a relationship with God.
  - How do you see prayer in your life?
  - Do you have a favorite way to pray?
- Jesus may not have answered the question “Give me the trade secret”, as JD paraphrased, but He taught them to pray in a more profound way. We even call it “The Lord’s Prayer.”
  - Have you memorized it?
  - Do you just “go through the motions”?
  - How can we go deeper as we prayer the Lord’s Prayer?
- JD talked about the parts of the prayer that puzzled and amazed him... asking for our “daily bread” or “forgiving others that have sinned against us.” He asked us “Who prays like that?!?!” Asking only for our daily needs, and the ability to forgive others that have wronged us... amazing and amazingly hard!
  - What part of the Lords’ Prayer stands out most to you?
  - Do you find it amazing or amazingly hard?
- In the parable of the man awaken in the middle of the night by a friend who needed his help Jesus teaches us persistence. The man awaken is God, and the person knocking is us. We are to keep knocking, keep searching, asking!
  - How do we talk to God?
  - Ho do we get better at it?
- Abraham stands in the way of the Lord, he blocks His path to Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham even went as far as to pray for those cities. He prayed for them, even when he didn’t want to... he prayed even though he knew God was right and they were wicked... Still he prayed for a lost cause, and enemy, the wicked.
  - Is it worth our time to do this?
  - Do you take the time to do it?
  - Why or why not?

- Who do you admire in your life?
  - Do you admire Abraham for what he did?
  - Take time this week to read through Abraham's life (Genesis 12:1 – 25:11)
    - What is the most admirable quality did you see?