



encounter.

a step-by-step guide through Scripture

disciple:

// someone who follows Jesus and leads others to do the same.

Studying God's Word is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God, be tuned to the Holy Spirit, and get to know Jesus intimately. John 1 tells us that the Word is God, the writer of Psalms tells us it will light our path, and Jesus tells us in John 8 if we abide in His Word, we are truly His disciples.

This tool is just one of the many ways to study the Bible and dive deeper into the passages we will be studying each weekend together. Our hope is that you begin to deeply understand the scripture we will be unpacking and allow God to speak to your heart before you even walk through the doors on Sunday.

This tool is designed to help guide you as you seek to understand the context of each verse, what it meant to its original audience, and what it means to us today.

There are a few ways you can utilize this PDF.

- 01** Print the PDF.
-or-
- 02** Download the PDF, open in a notes app (GoodNotes, Notability, etc), fill it out digitally.
-or-
- 03** Use the PDF to transcribe into a notebook or journal.

5 Marks of a Disciple

- Know Jesus Intimately
- Follow the Holy Spirit Relentlessly
- Obey God's Word Completely
- Love His Church Wholeheartedly
- Seek the Lost Intentionally



encounter.

a step-by-step guide through Scripture

Week of August 14th // Conversation: August 20th

The Parable of the The Persistent Friend



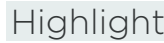
We are continuing our series, “Storyteller.” The disciples had asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. Jesus uses another parable, or a simple story, to teach his disciples and us one of His lessons about prayer. This is known as the “Parable of the Persistent Friend.”

pray.

Before you begin to study this week’s devotions, ask God to speak to you from His Word. Ask Him to meet you where you are in your walk with Him. Ask Him for an open heart and mind.

observe.

Luke 11:5-13 is a passage in the Bible where Jesus tells his disciples a parable about a man who goes to his friend at midnight to ask for three loaves of bread to feed a guest who has arrived. The friend initially refuses but eventually gives in because of the man’s persistence. Jesus then applies the man’s persistence to our relationship with the Father.

- 01** Using your favorite color, mark any reference to God or the Lord with a .
- 02**  any form of the word “ask.”
- 03** Underline the “keep on” phrases that Jesus teaches. (vs. 11:8-9)
- 04**  the reference to the “Holy Spirit.”



Luke 11:5-13 (NLT)

⁵ 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.

⁹ “And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you.

¹⁰ For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ “You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead?

¹² Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not!

¹³ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.”

Luke 18:1-8 (NLT)

¹ One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.

² “There was a judge in a certain city,” he said, “who neither feared God nor cared about people. ³ A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, ‘Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.’

⁴ The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, ‘I don’t fear God or care about people, ⁵ but this woman is driving me crazy. I’m going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!’”

⁶ Then the Lord said, “Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. ⁷ Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don’t you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth who have faith?”



interpret.

01 In the first parable, why did the neighbor finally give in to the friend? (Hint: vs. 11:8)

02 Referring to the “keep on” phrases that you underlined, list the result of each.



interpret.

03 What is the ultimate gift that the Father gives to us who ask? (Hint: vs. 11:13)

04 Why did the judge finally give in to the woman? (Hint: vs. 18:5)

apply.

01 Can you think of a friend who you could call on at midnight, and they'd help you without hesitation or grumbling?

02 So often we think that we are bugging God with small requests. Jesus says differently. He says that we are to feel free to come to Him with any request as often as we wish. Reflect on a request you can bring to Him right now.

02 God will always answer our prayers in the way that is best for us, at just the perfect time. Reflect on a time in your life when God answered your prayer in a different way than you expected.

bring it together.

Jesus often used parables to teach His lessons.

Jesus shows us that if human fathers will give us what is good, we can be sure God will even more so.

This parable of the persistent neighbor sets the stage for a description of God's love.

Even though He already knows our needs before we ever speak them in prayer, God loves to hear us ask Him to be involved in our lives.

connect.

We are available to answer any questions you might have.

 info@gtwy.church

We believe life is better in circles. Groups are a great place to grow in your relationship with other believers and find encouragement and accountability as you grow in your relationship with God.

 www.gtwy.church/groups

[we value your input. click or scan here to provide feedback](#)

