



## **Life Together: Submitting Yourself To God Through Others**

James 5:13-20

***October 4, 2009***

*"Pray!" --James*

Today we take a look at Luke 11, where Jesus lays the foundational teaching for our life of prayer. James would know this well--and we should too. We can better know what James meant in chapter 5 and what Jesus meant in Luke 11 by breaking down Jesus' "instructions" on prayer.

The Priority of Prayer (v.1)  
The Pattern for Prayer (vv. 2-4)  
The Persistence of Prayer (vv. 5-8)  
The Promises of Prayer (vv. 9-13)

### *Application:*

(v.1) The greatest argument for the priority of prayer in the life of a believer is the fact that our Lord was a Man of prayer. *Is prayer a priority in your life? Why or why not? What are you going to do about it?*

(vv. 2-4) The Lord's Prayer provides a pattern for us that enables us to call God our "Father". This comes through faith in Jesus Christ. Are you comfortable calling God your "Father"? Approaching Him through Jesus?

(vv. 5-8) Someone once wrote, "When God's people pray, God's reputation is at stake." God doesn't meet our needs just to meet our needs, but instead meets them to bring glory to his name. *Are you prepared to have your prayers answered in a way that brings glory to His name? What if it is not the answer you're hoping for?*

(vv. 9-13) The tenses in the verbs are important here: asking, seeking, knocking. "Keep on!" is the operative phrase! *What is it that you are praying for in your life right now? In the life of a co-worker or loved one? You haven't given up, have you?*