

# The Gospel of Luke

## Lesson 20

In chapter 10 of his gospel, Luke records the sending out of the 72, the parable of the Good Samaritan and Jesus' visit to the home of Martha and Mary. Jesus sends 72 followers to neighboring towns and villages to proclaim that the Kingdom of God has come near to them, not only in the person of Jesus Himself but also in the sending of his disciples.

Where the disciples were received, they were to stay; where they were not received, they were to shake the dust of that town off their feet as a sign of judgment against that town. When the disciples returned with joy, they said to the Lord, "Even the demons submit to us in your name." Jesus replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven," most likely meaning that Satan and the forces of evil were being defeated by Jesus and those He commissioned to proclaim that the Kingdom of heaven was near. Jesus also tells the 72 not to rejoice that the spirits submit to them, but that their names are written in heaven.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus makes the point to a teacher of the law who is testing Him, that it is more important to walk the talk, than to have mere academic knowledge of the Scripture. Those who were to have stopped to care for the man who was beaten, robbed and left for dead did nothing, while the Samaritan dressed his wounds, took him to an inn and proved to be a good neighbor to the injured man.

At the home of Martha and Mary, Jesus tenderly and lovingly encourages Martha to worry less about things and focus more on Him as Mary has done. He notes that Mary, by sitting at his feet and listening to what He has

said, has "...chosen what is better, and that which is better will not be taken away from her."

As you begin this lesson, take a moment—if you belong to Jesus—to thank Him that by God’s grace alone your name is written in heaven. And may we, also by God’s grace, walk the talk more and more and prove to be “good Samaritan neighbors” to those in need around us. And finally, may we worry less and choose like Mary to sit at Jesus’ feet listening to what He has to say to us.

### **Jesus’ Teaching on Prayer**

1. Use a dictionary to define “prayer.”
  
2. Read Luke 11:1-13 and Matthew 6:5-14 and 7:7-12.
  - A. From Luke 11:1, why do you think one of his disciples says to Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples”? What do you think the disciple has seen that prompts him to speak to Jesus in such a fashion?
  
  - B. From Matthew 6:5-8, what warnings and instructions does Jesus provide to the disciples? Why do you think He does this?



B. For what reason does the man in bed get up and give his friend all he needs?

C. What spiritual truth is Jesus teaching here? How are we to apply this story to our prayer life? Why?

4. Read Luke 11:9-13 and Matthew 7:7-12.

A. Using a dictionary, define “ask,” “seek” and “knock.”

B. In the biblical sense, what do you think it means to ask, seek and knock?

C. From Luke 11:10 and Matthew 7:8, what does Jesus promise to those who ask, seek and knock?

D. For personal reflection: Have you applied the principle of asking, seeking and knocking in your prayer life? If so, please record an example of your experience. What have you learned?

E. From Luke 11:11-13 and Matthew 7:9-12, how does Jesus reinforce His point?

5. What important truths about prayer do you discern from the following Scriptures?

A. Jonah 2:1

B. 2 Chronicles 7:14

C. Matthew 5:44

D. Luke 6:28

E. Luke 18:1-5

6. What additional truths do you glean from the following Scriptures?

A. John 16:19-24

B. Philippians 4:6 Colossians 4:2

C. Colossians 4:2

D. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

E. 1 Timothy 2:1-4

F. James 5:13-16

G. 1 Peter 3:7

7. How do you intend to apply what you have learned from this lesson?