

The Friend at Midnight

August 10, 2025 | Luke 11:5–8



Observation: What is happening here?

Context: The parable is between the Lord's Prayer (pattern) and Jesus' promise to answer prayer (Ask–Seek–Knock).

Scene: A guest arrives at midnight; the host has nothing. He goes to a friend and asks for three loaves. The friend protests because the door is shut and the children are in bed (V.5–7).

Turning Point: Not friendship, but **shameless boldness** (*anaideia*) moves the friend to give “as much as needed” (v.8).

Parable Elements & Meaning:

Midnight: urgency, inconvenience, or unexpected hour.

Anaideia: shameless, unembarrassed **persistence**

Connection with The Parable of the Persistent Widow: Luke 18:1-8

Interpretation: What can we learn?

Prayer Begins with the Heart

- We approach a Friend—and in Christ, our Father. The request is for another; prayer is relational before it is transactional, and God supplies what we lack to love well.
- **Scripture:** *John 15:15; Romans 8:15; Hebrews 4:16; Galatians 6:2*

Be Persistent in Prayer

- Anaideia = shameless, unembarrassed persistence. If such persistence moves a sleepy friend, how much more will a willing Father respond?
- **Scripture:** *Luke 11:9–13; Matthew 7:7–11; Luke 18:1–8; Psalm 55:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Philippians 4:6–7*

God Provides Our Daily Bread

- Grace received becomes grace given: God often answers through His people—we become part of the provision we’re praying for.
- **Scripture:** *Isaiah 58:7–9; Romans 12:13; 1 Peter 4:9; Hebrews 13:2*

Application: How should we live?

Believe and Begin a Relationship with Christ

- Respond to the gospel and approach the Father with confidence—prayer flows from relationship.
- **Scripture:** *1 Corinthians 15:1–4; Hebrews 4:16; 1 John 5:14–15; John 14:13–14*

Practice Persistent Prayer

- Keep asking until God answers or redirects; build a daily rhythm of watchful, thankful prayer.
- **Scripture:** *Colossians 4:2; Romans 12:12; Psalm 62:8; Philippians 4:6*

Be Prepared to Help Unexpectedly

- Be inconvenience-ready: pray and provide; open your door and table as part of God’s answer.
- **Scripture:** *Proverbs 3:27; James 2:15–16; 1 Peter 4:9; Matthew 5:16*