

Perseverance in Prayer
Luke 11:5-13

Review:

1. Jesus encourages us to persistence in prayer, promising that it will eventually be rewarded
2. Failure to persist in prayer may indicate a need to correct our priorities or a lack of faith in God's power or His love
3. Perseverance in prayer is a sign of spiritual health, an indicator of the gift of faith we have already received by the power of the Holy Spirit
4. Our persistence in prayer is justified, given God's great power and His love for us

Go Further – Read Psalm 104:

1. What reason does the psalmist give in verse 1 why he should bless the Lord?
2. How does the psalmist describe God's greatness in verses 1-4? Comparing this to Genesis chapter 1, to what part of God's creating work do you think these verses allude?
3. What part of God's creating work do you think verses 5-9 describe?
4. How does God provide for His creatures in verses 10-13? Which creatures receive this blessing?
5. What does God provide for His creatures in verses 14-17? How is mankind specifically blessed in these verses? What do God's gifts tell us about Him and His love for us?
6. According to verse 18, what creatures did God make to live in the mountains and cliffs? Does this image give you hope in the difficult situations of your own life? In what way?
7. Verses 19-23 describes the different activities of man and animals at night and during the day. How does God provide for as well as control the dangerous beasts which roam at night?
8. What do verses 19-23 tell us about the way God protects His people?
9. What does verse 24 say God used His wisdom to do? Is this encouraging to you? Why or why not?
10. We're not exactly sure to what sea creature the term "Leviathan" refers, but what else do verses 25 and 26 tell us God put in the sea? To what use does man put the ocean?
11. In verses 27-28, what does the psalmist say God's creatures depend on Him to do?
12. In verse 29, what power does the psalmist say God holds over His creatures?
13. What does God send His Spirit to do in verse 30? How does this give you hope?
14. What is the psalmist's desire in verse 31? How should this affect our own priorities?
15. How does the psalmist describe God's power in verse 32?
16. In verses 33 and 34, what is the psalmist's response to God's creation and providence?
17. How does the psalmist want God to demonstrate His justice in verse 35?
18. How is the end of the psalm similar to its beginning? How well do you think the psalmist has done in giving us reasons to do these things?

Apply:

1. How does thinking about God's power displayed in Creation give you confidence in the face of your problems today?
2. How does thinking about how God provides for all His creatures give you confidence in the face of your own needs?
3. How does this Psalm encourage you to pray? How might this psalm change your priorities or your persistence in prayer?