

COMMAND: PURSUE PARTNERSHIP

EXPANDED LEADER INFORMATION

<i>Looking Back</i>	<i>Looking Up</i>	<i>Looking Forward</i>
<p>1. CARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PRAISES/REQUESTS• PRAY FOR EACH OTHER <p>2. LOVING ACCOUNTABILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ABIDE?• MISSION STATEMENT?• PREVIOUS GOAL(S)	<p>3. WORSHIP + SEEK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 CORINTHIANS 14:26 <p>4. VISION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GREAT COMMISSION <p>5. NEW LESSON</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• COMMAND > STORY > READ > ASK > EXPLORE	<p>6. SETTING GOALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HOW WILL WE OBEY AND APPLY THE COMMAND? <p>7. PRACTICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 SEC TESTIMONY 3 CIRCLES OIKOS MAP <p>8. COMMISSION</p>

NEW LESSON

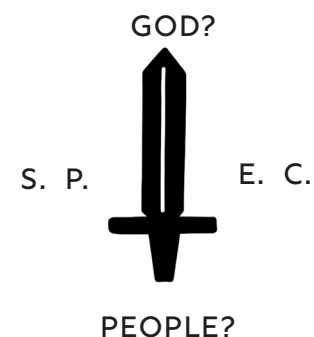
READ THE COMMAND: IN LUKE 24:49, JESUS SAYS...

TELL THE STORY: LUKE 11:5-13

READ THE STORY ALOUD

DISCOVER/ASK: USE THE SWORD BIBLE STUDY METHOD TO DISCUSS THE STORY AND REVEAL ITS MEANING FOR OUR LIVES

- PRACTICE TELLING THE STORY



WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TELL US ABOUT GOD?

- God wants us to seek Him!
- He is a good Father who gives good things.
- We aren't supposed to accomplish His will on our own.

WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TELL US ABOUT PEOPLE?

- We are evil compared to God.
- We are children of God.

ARE THERE ANY SINS IN THE PASSAGE TO AVOID?

- Not really any overt sins, but trying to accomplish God's will in our own strength is definitely counter to the way He desires/designed it to be.

ARE THERE ANY PROMISES IN THE PASSAGE THAT WE SHOULD BEHOLD ?

- If we ask, it will be given.
- If we seek, we will find.
- If we knock, the door will be opened.
- Our continual seeking will be rewarded.

- If we continue to seek and ask, God will give us His Holy Spirit.
 - This goes back to the conversation around being sealed with the Holy Spirit (which happens immediately at the moment of conversion), and being filled with the Spirit (also called being clothed with power in Acts 1:8), which doesn't necessarily happen at conversion (see Acts 8:14-17), and can happen multiple times (see Acts 2:4 and Acts 4:31). The difference between these can be considered as God within you versus God upon you.
 - Quote for thought... God is within you for your benefit, He is upon you for others' benefit!

ARE THERE ANY EXAMPLES IN THE PASSAGE TO FOLLOW?

- Be persistent in pursuing God and the things we need to accomplish His purposes, just as the friend was persistent with his neighbor.

ARE THERE ANY COMMANDS IN THE PASSAGE TO BE OBEYED?

- Ask, Seek, and Knock (Pursue) partnership with and empowerment by God (via His Holy Spirit)
- Don't give up! God wants you to be persistent in your pursuit of Him.

EXPLORE MORE:

A. WHO ARE WE PURSUING PARTNERSHIP WITH?

- The Holy Spirit

B. WHY SHOULD WE PURSUE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- Zechariah 4:6, Acts 1:4-8, & Galatians 3:1-3
- We were never meant to live the life of following Jesus in our own strength. We have to have God's help via His Holy Spirit!

C. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- John 14:26, 16:7-8, 16:13-15 | Matthew 10:19-20 | 1 Corinthians 2:10-11, 12:7-11 | Ephesians 1:13, 1:17-20 | Romans 8:10-11, 8:26-27 | Galatians 5:16-21, 5:22-25

C. HOW DO YOU PURSUE PARTNERSHIP?

- Review Luke 11:5-13 (Ask, Seek, & Knock. And keep doing it!)
- Surrender all of yourself. Plead for empowerment in the Spirit. Commit to His strength and way

EXPLORE MORE ADDITIONAL NOTES:

It is absolutely clear in Scripture that we cannot succeed in the Christian life without a partnership with God via His Spirit! Jesus charged the disciples not to dare do it without the Spirit's help in Luke 24:49 when He tells them to wait in the city until they had been clothed with power from on high before spreading the gospel. These were men who had been with Jesus for three years! They listened to His teachings. They watched Him do ministry and perform miracles first hand. Jesus opened their mind to understand the Scriptures (yes please!) in verse 45. And in the John 20:22 version of the account, it says that Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "receive the Holy Spirit." They experienced all of this, and still yet Jesus told them to wait until they were clothed with power to accomplish their ministry and task.

Even in Acts 10:37-38 we are reminded that Jesus accomplished the ministry and miracles that He did as a result of having been anointed with the Holy Spirit too! This concept is critical in the New Covenant Good News of the Gospel- Jesus came to bring forgiveness of our sins (which leads to an eternity together with God) and to give us a life here and now with God (Father, Son, & Holy Spirit) now! This is why John the Baptist said that Jesus would baptize with water and fire!

SET GOALS:

A good goal for this week might be to ask, seek, and knock in partnering with the Holy Spirit in everything you do. You may have specific situations that you are wildly aware your strength and abilities are insufficient to accomplish by yourself, partner with Him! Ask God to fill/baptize/clothe/empower you with His Holy Spirit. Maybe even take a look at some of the gifts of the Spirit in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 and seek partnership with the Spirit that He might manifest some of those giftings within you.

Remember, when seeking the gifts, always prioritize seeking the gift-Giver over the gifts themselves... but we are encouraged to earnestly seek the gifts too! (1 Corinthians 14:1)