Week 3 – **The Power of Persistence** (Nov 26, 2023)

After Jesus gave his disciples the Lord's Prayer as a model, he shares a story highlighting the importance of being persistent in prayer. When it seems like God is not answering, we will be tempted to give up, move on, or to stop praying; but Jesus assures us that we can't go wrong by bringing our requests to God anytime or anywhere.

Getting Discussion Started:

- If you could invite three historical figures to join you in a prayer circle, who would they be and why?
- How do you handle moments when you feel like your prayers are not being answered?

Discussion Questions:

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message and why?

Read Luke 11:5-13

2. A parable typically has one big idea that is being expressed through the story. What is the one big idea that Jesus is trying to communicate?
3. The main character in Jesus' story is so persistent that he gets what he needs in spite of his friend's unwillingness to get up. Discuss how Jesus contrasts the unwillingness of the friend in verse 8 with the disposition of the Father in verses 10-13.
4. Discuss the following types of prayer together:
    a. **Supplication** – asking God for the things we need
    b. **Thanksgiving** – expressing thanks and gratitude for who God is and what he's done.
    c. **Faith** – reminding God of his promises.
    d. **Repentance** – acknowledging our sin and shortfalls and changing directions
    e. **Lament** – expressing our sadness and sorrow to God
    f. **Praying in the Spirit** – allowing the Spirit in us to guide our prayers
    g. **Intercession** – standing in the gap on behalf of others
5. Which of the above types of prayer do you practice most often? Are you willing to learn more about the other types of prayer and pray in new ways?
6. Prayer Warriors – are individuals who have determined to pray and not let go until they see the results God has promised. Have you known any prayer warriors? What qualities did they
7. Is there something you need to keep persistently praying about right now? How can this group encourage and support you as you do so?

Pray together.