

Follow Me — and I Will Make You Fishers

(A Journey Through the Gospel of Luke)

“Teach Us to Pray”

Luke 11

June 7 2026

Pastor David Bardowell

Big Idea

Disciple-makers are not sustained by talent, activity, or strategy alone—but by intimacy with the Father through prayer.

Disciple-Making Focus

Reproduction flows from communion with the Father.

I. Disciple-Makers Learn to _____ the Father — Not Just Serve Him (vv. 1-4)

“Lord, teach us to pray...” (Luke 11:1)

He said to them, “Whenever you pray, say, Father...” (Luke 11:2, CSB)

Key Truth:

Disciple-making begins with abiding, not striving.

II. Disciple-Makers Pray with _____ — Not Passivity
(vv. 5-13)

“Ask... Seek... Knock...” (Luke 11:9)

“How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” (Luke 11:13)

Key Truth:

Prayer is where dependence replaces self-reliance.

III. Disciple-Makers Live with _____ — Not Empty Religion (vv. 14-36)

“If I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.” (Luke 11:20, CSB)

“Whoever is not with me is against me...” (Luke 11:23)

Key Truth:

You cannot reproduce spiritually what you are not pursuing personally.

Pastor David Bardowell, Senior Pastor
PastorDavid@TheGateOC.com
Info@TheGateOC.com

Small Group Questions — Week 14

Series: *Follow Me — and I Will Make You Fishers*

Week 14 Title: Teach Us to Pray

Text: Luke 11

Start Here — Reflective Question

Who taught you the most about prayer, and what did you learn from their example?

Read the Passage

Have someone read Luke 11:1–13 aloud before discussion.

Discussion Questions

1. Seeking the Father — Luke 11:1–4

The disciples asked Jesus: “Lord, teach us to pray.”

Why do you think the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray rather than preach, heal, or perform miracles?

How does calling God “Father” shape the way we approach prayer?

The sermon said: “Disciple-making begins with abiding, not striving.”

What does that mean to you?

2. Praying with Persistence — Luke 11:5–13

Jesus tells us to:

- Ask
- Seek
- Knock

Which of those three words stands out to you most right now and why?

How can persistent prayer strengthen our faith even before we receive an answer?

3. Depending on the Holy Spirit

Jesus says: “How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Why is it important to remember that disciple-making is ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit?

Can you think of a time when God answered prayer or worked in a way that was clearly beyond your own ability?

4. Avoiding Empty Religion — Luke 11:14–36

Jesus warns about outward religion without inward transformation.

What are some signs that a person is relying more on performance than on communion with God?

The sermon said: “You cannot reproduce spiritually what you are not pursuing personally.”

Why is that true?

5. Disciple-Making Through Prayer

The Disciple-Making Focus for this week was: “Reproduction flows from communion with the Father.”

Who is one person in your life that God may be calling you to pray for consistently?

How can prayer prepare us to influence others spiritually?

6. Heart Check

Which part of the sermon challenged you most?

- Seeking the Father
- Praying with Persistence
- Depending on the Holy Spirit
- Avoiding Empty Religion

What is one practical step you can take this week to strengthen your prayer life?

Disciple-Making Connection

Jesus’ disciples learned to pray by watching Jesus pray.

How can your prayer life become an encouragement and example to others?

Close Together

Spend time praying together.

Pray that God would:

- deepen your relationship with Him
- teach you to pray with greater faith and persistence
- fill you with the Holy Spirit
- help you depend on Him rather than yourself
- place one person on your heart who needs Jesus

Ask God to make you a disciple who abides deeply and helps others do the same.