CHRISTIAN ADVANCE ARCHIVES

# ADVANCE IN THE WORD 09/17/17

#### **Advance In The Word**

**JESUS TEACHES HIS DISCIPLES TO PRAY** Luke 11:1-13

The account tells us Jesus was praying.  A disciple observed Him and the disciple's heart is stirred to learn how to pray like Jesus does.  The disciple says, "teach us to pray ...".  The LORD's prayer follows a classic prayer in the Jewish short form.  Easy to remember.  Then three times as much information follows what seems to have been an answer to the question.  The emphasis is to be persistent, bold, asking, seeking, knocking!  
In addition, Jesus follows with promises.  "Ask and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."  If that weren't enough further be builds the confidence of the disciple by saying, "*Everyone* who asks *receives*; he who seeks *finds*; and to him who knocks, *the door will be opened*.  To further strengthen the logic of Jesus' teaching and drive home the point, Jesus gives an illustration that even those listening to him give good gifts to their children.

We come to the point Jesus is making: "... how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Prayer is essential to teach your disciples.  It is essential for all spiritual growth.  But first and fore-most persist, ask, seek, knock in order to receive the Holy Spirit.  He is the power and enabler of the Christlike life.  
When was the last time you passionately sought to be filled with the Holy Spirit and asked, sought and knocked on His door?  Learn to pray like Jesus ... filled, directed, guided by the Holy Spirit.