

# “God’s Door is Always Open”

Based on Luke 11:5-10                      July 21, 2019  
Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

*Luke 11:5-6*

*5 Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,*

*6 because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.'*

† Travelers often journeyed late in the evening to avoid the heat of the day.

† In Jesus’ time in the Middle East, hospitality to a friend, even if they come unannounced, is a sacred duty.

*Luke 11:7 - "Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.'*

† People left their door open most all the time.

† A closed door meant for others to not bother who was inside unless it was urgent.

*Luke 11:8 - I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.*

† The lesson in this parable is not that I must batter down God’s door until God finally gives in to me.

† The lesson is that by praying persistently, I am showing God that I am very serious about my request.

*Luke 11:9-10*

*9 "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.*

*10 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."*

† Jesus is offering me an open door to God.

† My askings, my seeking, my knocking, must be in harmony with God’s will for me.

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† Patrick Mosely put it so well, “The turning point in our lives is when we stop seeking the God we want and start seeking the God who is.”

## Applying Today’s Message to My Life:

† When was the last time someone helped me with a need I had? How did I respond?

† What was the last time I helped someone with a need they had? How did they respond?

† How persistent am I in my prayers to God?

† The last thing I prayed about – was I devoted to my desire or to God's desire?

† How far have I “turned” from seeking my will to seeking God’s will?