

**Scripture:** Malachi 1

**Singing:** 419:1, 3 – 150:1-4 – 265:1-3 – 233: 4-6

Intro: Jesus answered the petition “Teach us to pray” in two parts

A. Luke 11:2-4: *the ‘what’ of prayer*

B. Luke 11:5-13: *the ‘how’ of prayer*

<b>PRAYER #2</b>
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I. The why? II. The How? III. The what?
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II. How are we to pray?

A. We are to pray **to God** as He revealed Himself

1. Implies we need to *study Who He is* – a sampling:

a. Gen. 17:3

b. Ex. 3:5 – Joshua 5:14-15

c. Num 20:6

d. Ex. 34:8-9; Num. 14:14-20

2. What Jesus reveals in Luke 11 about *God’s character* is astounding

a. strength of Jesus’ parables is in His use of **contrasts**

b. observe the contrast between the *friend and God*

3. Reflect: *Describe for yourself ‘how you think about God?’ Is this matching the revelation God gives in Jesus of Himself?*

B. We are to pray to God with persistence: Luke 11:8-10

1. Jesus commends the neighbor’s *importunity* (persistence)

2. Scripture sets out various examples of persistent prayer

a. Gen. 32:26

b. Luke 24:29

c. Matt. 15:21- 28

3. Reflect: *Trace how persistent you are in your supplications.*

C. We ought to turn to God with *great reverence*: Malachi 1:6-14 (HC, q. 120)

1. Malachi protests against scandalous irreverence of priest and people

2. Apply Malachi's teaching to our *public worship*

3. Apply Malachi's call to *your family prayers & family worship*

4. Apply Malachi's protest to our *personal – secret prayer – life* (6-8)

Close: What is our hope and comfort as we face our poor prayer life?