

A person in a white robe is walking away from the viewer on a vast, golden sand dune. In the distance, a large, rectangular structure made of a textured, blue material is illuminated from within, casting a bright glow. The word "LUKE" is written in large, white, block letters on the front of this structure. The background is a deep blue sky with some faint, glowing particles.

LUKE

THE SAVIOR'S SAGA

FOR THE SON OF MAN
CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE
THAT WHICH WAS LOST

THE PRIORITIES OF PRAYER

LUKE 11:1-13

HOW BIG A PRIORITY IS PRAYER IN YOUR LIFE?

This is the sixth of seven occasions in Luke's gospel when we see the Lord at prayer.

- The next time will be in Gethsemane.
- Jesus was a **PRAYER WARRIOR**; He had already given the disciples a prototype in the Sermon on the Mount.

Matthew 6:9-13

THE SEVEN P's OF POWERFUL PRAYER v. 1-4

1. When we pray, we must be occupied with the Father's **PERFECT PERSON**—all that He is!
2. We should also be occupied with the Father's **PRAISEWORTHY PLACE**—His Heaven.
3. We must also be occupied with the Father's **POWERFUL PERFECTION and PURITY**—His Holiness.
4. It is essential that in prayer we are occupied with the Father's **PREDETERMINED PURPOSES**—His Will.
5. We must also be occupied with the Father's **PERFECT and PLENTIFUL PROVISION**—daily bread from Heaven.
6. In prayer, we are to be occupied with the Father's **PERMANENT PARDON**—perfect and complete forgiveness.
7. In prayer, we are to be occupied with the Father's **POTENT PROTECTION**—the evil one has no power over you!

SOME ILLUSTRATIONS ON PRAYER

The Lord then continued His teaching on prayer by telling His disciples a story. **v. 11:5-13**

First, we see some unexpected guests.

GOD DOES ANSWER PRAYER. The issue is only **WHEN** God answers and not **IF** God answers.

GOD IS A CHEERFUL GIVER. He gives generously, not grudgingly.

- God gives according to the principles found in His Word. He does not simply do for us what we can and should do for ourselves—**HE IS NOT A GENIE!**

HOW DOES GOD ANSWER?

Do not expect God to constantly, miraculously step in to fix your foolishness or laziness. **2 Thess. 3:10-12; Prov. 6:6-11**

Pray earnestly and work diligently is the biblical model!

- God's delays are not denials.
- As George Müller used to say, "The **STOPS** as well as the **STEPS** of a good man are ordered of the Lord." **Ps. 37:23; James 2:18-20**
- *Praying patiently and waiting faithfully* for God to answer go hand in hand.
- God is too loving and wise to give us harmful gifts. And He knows what we need as well as when we really need it!

MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY—THE 7 P's OF POWERFUL PRAYER.