October 13 & 14, 2026
Triumphant Tuesday Online Bible Study
Wisdom Wednesday Bible Study
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LUKE 11:1–54 NKJV

Jesus Teaches and Warns

Student Bible Study Notes

Chapter Overview

Luke 11 includes Jesus' teaching about prayer, His authority over Satan, the opportunity to respond to God's truth, and the danger of hypocrisy. As you study, notice how Jesus calls people not only to hear God's Word but also to respond to it with faith and obedience.

Lesson Outline

Section	Bible Passage / Focus
A. Prayer	Luke 11:1–13 — The model prayer, persistence, and God's good gifts
B. Satan	Luke 11:14–28 — Jesus' authority and the call to stand with Him
C. Spiritual Opportunity	Luke 11:29–36 — Responding to the truth and walking in the light
D. Hypocrisy	Luke 11:37–54 — Inner character, right priorities, and responsibility for teaching

A. Prayer — Luke 11:1–13

Key sections: The Model Prayer (vv. 1–4) • Boldness and Persistence (vv. 5–8) • Promises for Prayer (vv. 9–13)

1. The Model Prayer (verses 1–4)

1 Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of
His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."
2 So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your
name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. **3** Give us day
by day our daily bread. **4** And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is
indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."

- The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray.
- Examples of Prayers from Jesus:

  - He prayed at His baptism (Luke 3:21)

- He prayed before He chose the Twelve (Luke 6:12)
- He prayer when the crowds increased (Luke 5:16)
- He prayed before He asked the Twelve for their confession of faith (Luke 9:18)
- Effective prayer is the provision for every seed and the solution for every problem.

•The prayer gives a pattern:

- **Honor God** – He is our Father in heaven; we remember God's holiness and glory. This prayer is focused on *community*; Jesus said, "Our Father", the whole prayer is social. "Hallowed" means *set apart, there is no one like God*. He is God all by Himself.
- **Seek His kingdom and will** – this shows us passion for God's glory and agenda. His name, kingdom, and will have the top priority. Jesus wants us to pray with the desire that the will of God would be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Selah Moment: Some see the Trinity in these requests. The *Father* is the source of all holiness; *Jesus* brings the kingdom of God to us; and the *Holy Spirit* accomplishes God's will in us and among us. Some see the three greatest things in these three requests. To pray **Our Father** requires *faith*, because he who comes to God must believe that He is. To pray **Your kingdom come** requires *hope*, because we trust it is to come in fullness. To pray **Your will be done** requires *love*, because love is the incentive to obey all of God's will.

- **Bring daily needs to Him** - We are encouraged to ask God for the things we need in "give us today our daily bread." "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" reminds us to confess our sins to God and to turn from them, and to forgive others as God has forgiven us. The conclusion of the Lord's Prayer, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one" is a plea for help in achieving victory over sin and a request for protection from the attacks of the devil.

  Summary (1-4):

Prayer is more than repeating words; it is sincere communication with God:

Remember, in prayer, God is far more interested in our communicating with Him and speaking from our hearts than He is in the specific words we use. Philippians 4:6-7 declares, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

What does the phrase "Our Father" teach us about our relationship with God and with other believers?

Which part of the model prayer do you most need to focus on in your prayer life right now?

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2. Boldness and Persistence (verses 5–8)

5 And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; 7 and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'? 8 I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs.

Jesus tells of a man who continues asking his neighbor for bread. This is often called "the parable of the persistent neighbor." The story encourages boldness and persistence in prayer. God will meet our needs because He loves us—even more than our own fathers (Luke 11:8–13).

Summary of Verses 5-8: Never give up. Don't stop praying.

What does this illustration teach us about persistence in prayer?

How can we keep praying faithfully while still trusting God's will and timing?

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3. Promises for Prayer (verses 9–13)

9 "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it
will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to
him who knocks it will be opened. 11 If a son asks for [e]bread from any father among
you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead
of a fish? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?
13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more
will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Jesus says to ask, seek, and knock. There is no question at all about this. You have not, because you ask not. Jesus tells His disciples and us how to get prayers answered. The first step is to ask. If we seek God, He is not in hiding. God will answer our prayer when we ask. Jesus Himself has opened the door to heaven for us.

He compares God's goodness with the care a human parent shows a child and emphasizes the Father's gift of the Holy Spirit. The best gift, aside from salvation, that a Christian can receive is the Holy Spirit. It gives us power to live this life victoriously.

Summary of Verses 1-13: Pray to God with a sincere heart, pray boldly, and then ask, seek, and knock. Here is a good acronym to remember:

ACTS

- A — Adoration: acknowledge and praise God for who He is.
- C — Confession: confess sin and seek God's forgiveness.
- T — Thanksgiving: thank God for His goodness and provision.
- S — Supplication: bring requests for yourself and others.

Which part of ACTS comes most naturally to you? Which would you like to practice more?

B. Satan — Luke 11:14–28

Key sections: Accusation (vv. 14–16) • Jesus' Response (vv. 17–22) • Application (vv. 23–28)

1. Accusation (verses 14–16)

14 And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. So it was, when the demon had gone out, that the mute spoke; and the multitudes marveled. **15** But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." **16** Others, testing *Him*, sought from Him a sign from heaven.

- After Jesus casts out a demon, some accuse Him of working by Beelzebub, while others demand a sign.
- Instead of rejoicing that God had sent a Redeemer, the religious leaders were rebelling against the truth of God's Word and seeking to discredit Christ's work and character.

2. Jesus' Response (verses 17-22)

17 But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house *divided* against a house falls. **18** If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? Because you say I cast out demons by Beelzebub. **19** And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? Therefore they will be your judges. **20** But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. **21** When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. **22** But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his [g]spoils.

- Jesus points out that a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. The point was that Satan would not work against himself, and His (Jesus) accusers had to answer how Satan benefited from the work Jesus had just done.
  His works demonstrate that God's kingdom has come and that Jesus is stronger than Satan. Jesus not only defeated Satan on our behalf; He also disarmed him. Satan will never get to keep or enjoy the battle-spoil from his momentary victory. Jesus' victory over the **strong man** is complete. Jesus looks at every life delivered from Satan's domination and says, "I'm plundering the kingdom of Satan one life at a time." There is *nothing* in our life that *must* stay under

Satan's domination. The One who binds the strong man and divides his spoils is our risen Lord.

What does Jesus' illustration of the strong man and the stronger man teach us about His authority?

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3. Application – The Danger of Neutrality (verses 23–28)

23 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.
24 "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest;
and finding none, he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' 25 And when he
comes, he finds *it* swept and put in order. 26 Then he goes and takes with *him* seven other
spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last *state* of that
man is worse than the first." 27 And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain
woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed *is* the womb that bore
You, and *the* breasts which nursed You!" 28 But He said, "More than that, blessed *are*
those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

- Jesus challenges the crowd to decide about where they stand: "He who is not with Me is against Me."
- The illustration of the unclean spirit warns that an outward change without a lasting response to God leaves a person vulnerable. The heart of man has a vacuum-like nature to it. It must be filled. If we empty our heart of evil without filling it with Jesus and His good, evil will rush in again to fill it – and sometimes worse evil than before.
- **Hearing and Keeping God's Word -** Jesus emphasizes the blessing of those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

What is one practical way to move from hearing God's Word to obeying it?

Key takeaway: Jesus calls people to stand with Him, recognize His authority, and respond to God's Word with obedience.

C. Spiritual Opportunity — Luke 11:29–36

Key sections: Jonah and Solomon (vv. 29–32) • Light and the Eye (vv. 33–36)

1. Jonah and Solomon (verses 29–32)

29 And while the crowds were thickly gathered together, He began to say, "This is an evil generation. It seeks a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah [h]the prophet. **30** For as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so also the Son of Man will be to this generation. **31** The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon *is* here. **32** The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah *is* here.

- Jesus rebukes those who keep demanding signs instead of responding to the truth already shown to them.
- The people of Nineveh responded to Jonah's message with repentance, and the queen of the South sought Solomon's wisdom.
- Jesus declares that One greater than Jonah and Solomon is present.

What is the difference between sincerely seeking God and continually demanding more proof before responding?

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2. Light and the Eye (verses 33–36)

33 "No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts *it* in a secret place or under a basket, but on a lampstand, that those who come in may see the light. **34** The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore, when your eye is good, your whole body also is full of light. But when *your eye* is bad, your body also *is* full of darkness. **35** Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness. **36** If then your whole body *is* full of light, having no part dark, *the* whole *body* will be full of light, as when the bright shining of a lamp gives you light."

- **No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a secret place or under a basket, but on a lampstand**: Just as a lamp should be displayed out in the open so that all can benefit from its light, so the word and work of God should be displayed. Others should see the light of Jesus in us.

- The Light of the world, who is Jesus Christ our Lord, must not be hidden but must be raised to the highest. Those in great darkness can see the ***Light*** and come to that ***Light*** and receive life everlasting. The light illuminates dark areas. The ***Light*** on the candlestick above is lifted so the ***Light*** can be seen from a greater distance. That is what we Christians must do with the Light of Jesus: lift Him up so He can be seen from a distance.
- **The lamp of the body is the eye**: Even if a bad eye will make a person blind, so bad hearts will make one spiritually blind. One must be spiritually blind to attribute Jesus' miracles to Satan and to ignore the work of Jesus right before their eyes or to live as a hypocrite.
- **If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, the whole body will be full of light**: When the light of God's word shines; when the word and work of Jesus is understood, then one does not walk in the darkness of spiritual blindness.

Key takeaway: We are responsible for how we respond to the light and truth God gives us.

How can we let the light of Christ be seen through our choices and actions?

D. Hypocrisy — Luke 11:37–54

Key sections: Jesus Exposes Their Folly (vv. 37–41) • Jesus Denounces Their Sins (vv. 42–52) • Their Anger (vv. 53–54)

1. Jesus exposes their folly - The Inside Matters (verses 37–41)

37 And as He spoke, a certain Pharisee asked Him to dine with him**.** So He went in and sat down to eat. 38 When the Pharisee saw it, he marveled that He had not first washed before dinner. 39 Then the Lord said to him**,** "Now you Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness. 40 Foolish ones! Did not He who made the outside make the inside also? 41 But rather give alms of such things as you have; then indeed all things are clean to you**.**

- The Pharisees focused on outward cleanliness while neglecting the condition of their hearts. They seemed to forget that the same God who created the outside also created the inside, the "inner person" that needs cleansing (Psalm 51:6, 10).
- The Pharisees boasted of their giving (Matthew 6:1-4; Luke 18:11-12), but they did not ***give what was within*** to the Lord. The way to make the outside pure is to make the inside pure (Luke 11:41).
- Jesus challenges them to recognize that God cares about inward character, not merely outward religious behavior.

What is the difference between looking religious and having a heart that pleases God?

What practices can help us examine our own hearts instead of judging only what others can see?

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2. He denounces their sins - The Warnings to the Pharisees and Lawyers (verses 42–52)

42 "But ***woe*** to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass by justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. 43 ***Woe*** to you Pharisees! For you love the best seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces. 44 ***Woe*** to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like graves which are not seen, and the men who walk over *them* are not aware *of them.*" 45 Then one of the lawyers answered and said to Him, "Teacher, by saying these things You reproach us also." 46 And He said, "***Woe*** to you also, lawyers! For you load men with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers. 47 ***Woe*** to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and your fathers killed them. 48 In fact, you bear witness that you approve the deeds of your fathers; for they indeed killed them, and you build their tombs. 49 Therefore the wisdom of God also said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, and *some* of them they will kill and persecute,' 50 that the blood of all the prophets which was shed from the foundation of the world may be required of this generation, 51 from the blood of Abel to the blood of

Zechariah who perished between the altar and the temple. Yes, I say to you, it shall be required of this generation.
52 "***Woe*** to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter in yourselves, and those who were entering in you hindered."

Jesus confronts several failures:

- **Wrong priorities:** carefully observing small religious details while neglecting justice and the love of God.
- **Seeking recognition:** loving prominent seats and public greetings.
- **Hidden harm:** appearing righteous while negatively affecting others.
- **Unshared burdens:** placing heavy demands on people without helping them carry those burdens.
- **Rejecting God's messengers:** honoring prophets outwardly while resisting the message they brought.
- **Withholding knowledge:** making it harder for people to understand and respond to God's truth. The scribes were guilty of robbing the common people of the knowledge of the Word of God. It was bad enough that they would not enter the kingdom themselves, but they were hindering others from going in! It is a serious thing to teach God's Word, and not everyone is supposed to do it (James 3:1). But there is another side to this: the scribes convinced the people that nobody could understand and explain the law except the trained and authorized teachers. But we as Christians today have the Holy Spirit living inside of us that is a great teacher.

<u>Verses 50-51 (Deeper Dive)</u>

In **Luke 11:50–51:** Jesus is warning the religious leaders of His day that they will be held responsible for the violence and rejection of God's messengers throughout history. Jesus says that the people of His time will be judged for the blood of all the prophets — from the very beginning of the Bible (Abel, the first martyr) to the prophet Zechariah, who was killed in the temple — because they are continuing the same pattern of rejecting God's truth and harming those who bring it

The point Jesus is making: It's not just about physically killing prophets — it's about **rejecting God's truth** and continuing the same attitude as past generations. By honoring the tombs of the dead prophets while refusing to listen to the living ones, the leaders are "bearing witness" to the same rebellion that led to their deaths

Key takeaway: This is a warning that **ignoring God's truth and harming those who speak it is not a new problem** — it's part of a long, sinful pattern — and that God will deal with it. It calls us to respect and listen to God's messengers, because rejecting them is rejecting God Himself

3. Their Response – He aroused their anger (verses 53–54)

Rather than receiving Jesus' correction, His opponents became hostile and tried to trap Him with questions.

Summary:

- Luke 11:53–54 gives the capstone (the finishing touch) to Luke 11:14–54. Luke has carefully curated stories from Jesus' ministry that show why the Jewish religious leaders call for His crucifixion.
- They claim His power came from Satan despite His victories over evil (Luke 11:14–15).
- They deny Jesus' representation of God, though Gentiles from long ago recognized godly authority with far less proof (Luke 11:29–32).
- They refuse to reveal Jesus is the Messiah so the people may live in the light of truth (Luke 11:33–36, 52).
- They value looking holy over being holy (Luke 11:37–44).
- And they betray the witness of the Old Testament prophets who gave God's words about the Messiah (Luke 11:45–51).

It is a privilege to have the light of the Word of God and the privilege of prayer. The enemy wants to rob us of the blessings of spiritual growth and freedom. His plan is to substitute hypocrisy for reality and to encourage us to be more concerned about the outside than the inside. This is so dangerous that Jesus will have more to say about this in Luke 12.

Key takeaway: God desires integrity—our outward actions should reflect a heart shaped by His truth, justice, and love.

Closing Thoughts

As you reflect on Luke 11, consider these reminders:

- Pray faithfully and sincerely.
- Trust God's goodness while continuing to seek Him.
- Stand with Jesus and obey His Word.
- Respond to the light and truth God has given you.
- Pay attention to the condition of your heart, not just outward appearances.

Personal reflection: What is God asking me to hear, change, or practice?

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