

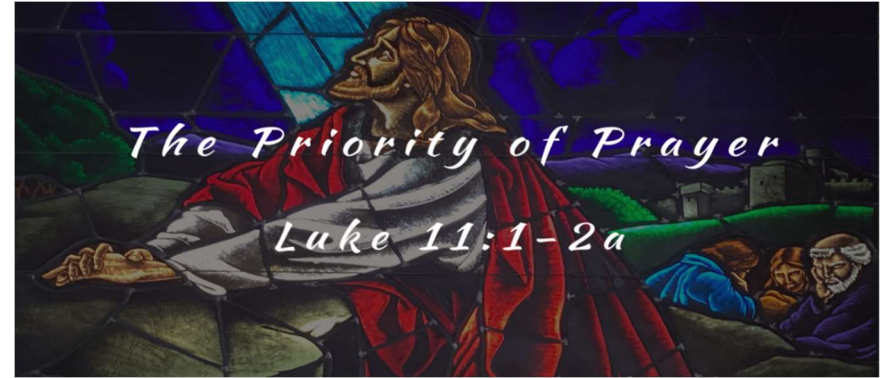


Stepping Stones

Luke 11:1-2a New Revised Standard Version

¹ He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ² So he said to them, "When you pray, say:"

Notes: _____



"I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer." –Martin Luther

Given a one-on-one audience with Jesus, what would you ask? For me personally, it might be “How did you multiply the loaves and fish?” or “How can I walk upon water?” For one of his first disciples, it was neither of these. Instead, this unknown disciple requested, “Lord, teach us to pray...”

I have often wondered why such an inquiry was made, but, when we look at the life and ministry of Jesus, we discover in many places the practice of prayer occurring. Was it the fact that Jesus engaged in this practice so often? Did he have a particular method or language he used? Or, might it have been the impact which it played in the execution of his work here upon earth?

My heart and mind lean toward the latter. Because it did make a difference, Jesus practiced prayer quite often. And, Jesus did so as the Son of God. If doing so was important for Jesus, shouldn't it have a significant place in our lives as well?

1. Prayer can't be an elective part of our faith journey.
2. Prayer is that for which we must create time and space.
3. Prayer must be the starting point for everything else.

Prayer Pebble: Lord, help me to remember prayer is like oxygen for my soul. It is a necessity. Amen.