Sunday Message Meditation: Luke 11:1-13.

- I. When it comes to an unexpected, immediate and urgent need we have a short list of friends who we immediately call upon for help. Those friends we *boldly* call upon in our time of need are those friends we anticipate will do what they can to be of any assistance. It would be unthinkable to have friends who would be indifferent to us in our time of need (they wouldn't be friends).
- II. Jesus uses the unthinkable situation of a reluctant friend to highlight the readiness of our Heavenly Father to respond to our requests. Our good and gracious Heavenly Father is not inconvenienced by our coming or by our requests. He is delighted in having a relationship with His children who run to Him in prayer.
- III. The context of Luke 11:1-13 is: <u>prayer</u>. The instruction of the passage is: <u>when you pray</u>, <u>pray like this</u> (The Lord's prayers). The encouragement of the passage/parable is: <u>boldly come to your Heavenly Father with your request</u>. <u>He is good</u>. The promise of the passage is: <u>God gives Himself (the Holy Spirit) to those who ask</u>.

Questions for extended thought:

- 1. Consider the short list of friends you have that you call on in times of emergency. Consider the short list that you are on the friends that have called on you in their time of distress. How did your relationship(s) reach that level of positive value and high regard?
- 2. How do you feel about your Heavenly Father desiring that kind of relationship with you? What are the implications for you?
- 3. How do you use the Lord's prayer as a model for praying?
- 4. What do you desire that is greater than God, Himself? If you had Him and nothing else, would you be satisfied?