

May 31, 2026

HOW TO BLESS YOUR NEIGHBOR

Week 2: Begin with Prayer

Passages: Luke 11:1–13

Bottom Line: God's plan for loving your neighbor and changing the world begins with prayer.

STARTER: Who is someone that has consistently prayed for you or cared for you spiritually? How did that impact your life?

Read Luke 11:1–4

The disciples didn't ask Jesus how to preach or lead — they asked Him how to pray.

- Why do you think prayer is often difficult or inconsistent?
- Which of these do you relate to most?
 - I don't know what to say in prayer.
 - No one taught me how to pray.
 - I feel awkward praying.
- How can prayer shift us from pressure to love?
- What elements from Jesus's prayer do you need to implement more often? What is lacking from your regular prayer?

Read Luke 11:9–13

Jesus invites His followers to ask, seek, and knock with confidence in the goodness of God.

- What one prayer is big enough you will keep asking and asking? How does Jesus's teaching encourage you in that? Frustrate you?
- How does prayer remind us that only God changes hearts?
- When have you seen God work through simple faithfulness instead of perfect words?
- What makes prayer feel more vulnerable than giving advice or trying to fix someone?

The first step of BLESS is:

B — Begin with Prayer

Take 2 minutes and write down 3 people you want to intentionally pray for during this series.

For each person, ask:

- What is happening in their life?
- How can you (or we) encourage or serve them?
- Would you be willing to share who they are so we can pray with you for them?

PRACTICE THIS WEEK

Choose one intentional prayer practice this week:

- Pray daily for one person by name
- Text someone and ask how you can pray for them
- Pray while walking your neighborhood
- Spend 5 minutes listening before speaking in prayer
- Ask God for one opportunity to encourage someone spiritually