

**The Good Father**

**Luke 11:9-13** <sup>9</sup> "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

- I. Jesus teaches about the Father using the context of a good **human father**.
  - A. A good father is **approachable**. V. 9-10
  - B. A good father seeks the **growth** of his child. V. 9-10
  - C. A good father knows when to step in and provide **merciful assistance**. V. 9-10
  - D. A good father cares about the **needs** of his children. V.11-12
  - E. A good father is not **cruel**. V. 11-12

**Ephesians 6:4** Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.
- II. Our Father in heaven has an **ultimate gift** He wants to give us. V. 13
  - A. The Holy Spirit is **never forced** on any of His children. V. 9
  - B. The Holy Spirit must be **desired** by the child. V. 10
  - C. The Holy Spirit is God's **presence** living in us. V. 13
  - D. The Holy Spirit meets our **spiritual** needs much as provisions meet our **physical** needs. V. 13 It has been said that a child of God has all of the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit may not have **all of us**.

**He concludes that even "good human" fathers don't measure up to God as Father.**