

“Warrior Moms”

(Luke 11:1)

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Mothers Day

I. Introduction

A. Watching “Survivor” of TV

1. Special competition in honor of Mother’s Day
2. The rules

Six married men will be dropped on an island. Each will be given one car and three kids for six weeks.

Each kid will play two sports and take either music or dance classes.

There will be no fast food.

Each man must take care of his three kids, maintain his career, keep his assigned house clean, correct all homework, complete science projects, cook, do laundry, and pay bills...with not enough money.

Each man must remember the birthdays of all their friends and relatives, and send cards out on time...no emailing.

Each man must also take each child to a doctor’s appointment, a dentist appointment, and a haircut appointment.

He must make one unscheduled and inconvenient visit per child to the Emergency Room.

He must also make cookies or cupcakes for a school function

The men will only have access to television when the kids are asleep and all chores are done.

The men must shave their legs, wear makeup daily, adorn themselves with jewelry, wear uncomfortable yet stylish shoes, keep fingernails polished, and eyebrows plucked.

During one of the six weeks, the men will have to endure severe abdominal cramps, backaches, headaches, and have extreme, unexplained mood swings...but never once complain or slow down from other duties.

They will need to read a book to the kids each night and in the morning, feed them, dress them, brush their teeth and comb their hair by 7:30 a.m.

A test will be given at the end of the six weeks and each father will be required to know all of the following information:

Each child's birthday, height, weight, shoe size, clothes size, doctor's name, the child's weight and length at birth, time of birth, and length of labor, each child's favorite color, middle name, favorite snack, song, drink and toy, as well what they want to be when they grow up.

The kids will vote the dads off the island based on performance.

The last man wins only if he still has enough energy left to be romantic with his spouse at a moment's notice.

If the last man does win, he can play the game over and over and over again for the next 18-25 years, eventually earning the right to be called "MOTHER!"

II. Text...Luke 11:1-13

A. The Setting (v. 1)

(1) One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of the disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

1. His disciples were watching while Jesus was praying
2. John the Baptist had taught his disciples how to pray
 - a. Now, they wanted Jesus to teach them how to pray
 - b. We call this "The Lord's Prayer"
 - c. Most widely known prayer
3. Some things you should know about this prayer
 - a. Similar to the prayer in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 6)
 1. Not the same time as the Sermon on the Mount
 - a. But it's the same prayer
 2. Matthew includes more than Luke does
 - b. Not meant to be merely memorized and repeated

- c. More of a framework for prayer
- d. What God wants you to pray for:
 - a. The will of God to be done on earth
 - b. Deliverance from Satan
 - c. Forgiving those who have hurt you
 - d. Victory over daily temptation
 - e. And more...

B. The Challenge

1. Skip ahead to Luke 11:9-10
 - a. Jesus states the most important thing

(9) 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. (10) For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

2. Raises a bunch of questions
 - a. Does prayer really change the will of God?
 - b. Then why didn't he heal your sister's cancer?
 - c. Hasn't God already determined what will happen?
 - d. How does God hear all of us at once?
 - f. What happens if my faith is weak?

C. Prayer lessons for Mother's Day

1. The baby parade
2. How to pray for your kids...and grand kids
3. They stand in danger
4. The need for "Praying Moms....the True Warriors"

- a. Moms fighting for the souls of their children
- 5. The battle is raging right here in “Conservative West Michigan”
 - a. Recent conversations with desperate parents
- 6. Need an army of warrior moms standing between Satan and their kids
- 7. Next week....special hope

III. The Warrior Mom

A. A warrior mom truly believes in the power of prayer

1. James 1:6-8

(6) But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. (7) That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; (8) he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

- a. The Book of James gives us tremendous insight into prayer
 - b. Clear guidelines regarding how to pray
2. Must have faith that:
 - a. God hears your prayers
 - b. God cares about your struggles
 - c. God can do something to help
 3. The plea of a father for his son in Mark 9:24

(24) Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”

4. God can handle your honesty
5. The “double minded mother”
 - a. Doesn’t fully trust God
 - b. Questions the heart of God
6. We sometimes **over-think** things

a. Must focus on what we're told to do

7. What we do know...God truly wants to hear your pleas

B. A warrior mom isn't afraid to plead

1. James 4:2

“You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God.”

2. Mothers willing to beg for the souls of their children

a. Shamelessly pleading with God

b. Boldly pleading with God

c. Later in Luke 11:8

1. God gives to those who boldly pester him

2. Those who won't go away

d. Example of a pleading mom

3. The key to the value of a house?

a. “Location, location, location”

4. The key to prayer?

a. “Ask, ask, ask”

5. The #1 reason prayers are not answered

a. They're never asked!

6. We are told to ask boldly and persistently

7. Never be afraid to plead with God...he can handle your pleading

C. A warrior mom seeks God's best for her children

1. James 4:2-3

(2) ...You do not have, because you do not ask God. (3) When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

2. What do you pray for?
 - a. That your kids become rich and famous?
 - b. That they will have a life of ease?
3. Consider the following possible prayers
 - a. That they accept Jesus as their Savior
 - b. That they demonstrate the love of Christ in their lives
 - c. That they choose a spouse that loves them and God
 - d. That they will raise godly kids
 - e. That in times of trouble they turn to God for their strength
 - f. That when crisis strikes, they remain faithful
4. Children are a gift from God
 - a. Giving them back to God....letting go
 - b. Trusting God to answer your prayers
 - c. Usually isn't done on your time schedule
5. Raising strong-willed and rebellious children
 - a. Those of you struggling today....or in the future
 - b. Special interview next week
 - c. Should give you "hope"
 - d. Many are champions in the making
6. We do know that we are to pray for God's will to be done
 - a. I John 5:14

(14) This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

- b. But how do we know it's in his will?

- c. Praying with “tears and groaning”
 - 1. Don’t know what to say
 - 2. Trusting the spirit of God to make intercession for us
- 7. We do know that we are to make intercessory prayers
 - a. Pleading with God for someone else
 - b. Examples—
 - 1. Abraham pleaded for Sodom and Gomorrah
 - 2. Samuel prayed all night for Saul
 - 3. David pleaded for God’s people
 - 4. Daniel prayed for the deliverance of God’s people in Babylon
 - 5. Paul prayed day and night with tears for three years for the people of the church in Ephesus
- 8. Mothers, are you seeking God’s best for your kids?
 - a. By name?
 - b. Daily?
 - c. Day and night?
 - d. With tears?
- 9. A praying mother is willing to accept God’s answer
 - a. God sees the “big picture”
 - b. He does it for our good
 - 1. You just don’t know it yet
 - 2. You’d make the same choice if you knew all God knows
 - c. Your kids will grow the most during the tough times
 - 1. Not during the times of ease
 - d. God allows His children to go through the same pain as the lost

1. So the unsaved can see what a difference Christ makes
 2. As cancer strikes
- e. The true champions have often survived the most pain
1. They truly understand

D. A warrior mom continually examines her own life

1. James 5:16

(16) Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man (mom) is powerful and effective.

2. The need for confession
3. No secrets from God
4. Can preach with unconfessed sin...but can't pray with unconfessed sin
5. The impact of unconfessed sin

- a. Isaiah 59:1-2

(1) Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. (2) But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

- b. Proverbs 28:9

(9) If anyone turns a deaf ear to the law, even his prayers are detestable.

6. Dads, I hope you've been listening

- a. I Peter 3:7

(7) Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

- b. Dads, how are you treating the mother of your kids?

E. A warrior mom makes intercession her top priority

1. James 5:17-18

(17) Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. (18) Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

- a. Seven times
- b. On his face pleading with God
2. How “earnest” are you
3. We call it “supplication”
 - a. It’s the laying hold of the Lord which will not let go or let up until something happens
 - b. Stephen F. Olford—“This kind of praying costs, for it involves fasting, discipline, and persistence.”
4. With groanings that cannot be uttered
 - a. Praying when words fail you
5. Wrestling with God for these babies
 - b. Till death takes your last breath

F. A warrior mom never gives up

1. Luke 11:5-7

(5) Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, (6) because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.’ (7) “Then the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’

2. The key point

(8) I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man’s boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

3. Lots of questions...but one thing is crystal clear

(9) 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. (10) For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

- a. Just keep knocking
 - b. We are told to persist with shameless boldness
4. Why God doesn't always give to us the first time?
- a. Teaching us about persistent faith
 - b. Faith means not taking "no" for an answer
 - c. Testing the depth of your faith
5. Examples—
- a. R.A. Torrey prayed for his oldest brother's salvation
 - 1. For fifteen years
 - 2. Seemed to be getting farther away
 - 3. Yet never missed a single day
 - 4. Then one day God said to me as I knelt to pray—"I have heard your prayer. You need not pray any more, your brother is going to be converted."
 - 5. And he was, two weeks later
 - b. Elderly lady after hearing R.A. Torrey
 - 1. Had prayed for her brother nearly 63 years
 - a. Gave up a short time ago
 - 2. "I am going to begin my prayers again"
 - 3. Saved within two weeks
6. "Hellish Intervention" -- R.A. Torrey

The thought of wrestling or fighting in prayer is not the thought that we have to wrestle with God to make God willing to grant our prayers. No, "our wrestling is...against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Eph. 6:12), against the Devil and all his mighty forces, and there is no place where the Devil so resists us as when we pray.

Sometimes when we pray it seems as if all the forces of hell have swept in between us and God. What shall we do? Give up? No! A thousand times, No! Fight the thing through on your knees, wrestle in your prayer to God and win...”

7. Time for a renewed commitment
 - a. Praying for the children of Chapel Pointe
8. Led by the warrior moms of Chapel Pointe