LESSON 3:  PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER

AIM:  To teach the children the spiritual principle involved in persistent prayer.

MEMORY VERSE:  “Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you.” (Luke 11:9).

Note that it follows directly after a request from one of Jesus’ disciples to teach them a prayer they could recite—a prayer to use in repetition. Jesus then gave them this colourful illustration to show that God acknowledges and honours the person who does not give up easily. Often God waits awhile in granting our requests so that we develop the character qualities of pressing in, pressing onward and diligence.

The Living Bible gives a good paraphrase of this passage.

CHARACTERS:
•  Family - father, mother, son, daughter.
•  Neighbour
•  Traveller.

PROPS:
On a platform, set up a bedroom scene for the family with blankets and pillows. Put a wooden screen so that the neighbour can knock on it. Some bread also.

On the floor, to one side, set up a screen and possibly a table and chair.

The traveller will need a suitcase.

Spend some time with the family preparing them for bed. Tuck the children into bed, pick up some clothes, etc. Then the parents get into bed and fall asleep.
Meanwhile, the neighbour can be sitting at the table reading. When the family is asleep the traveller enters from the side door and knocks on the neighbour’s ‘door’. The neighbour greets his friend warmly and invites him inside. He asks if he has eaten. The friend says ‘No’, however when the neighbour looks for some food, he finds none. He tells the friend to make himself comfortable while he goes and asks his neighbour to help.

The neighbour knocks on the family’s door several times but the family sleeps on. He continues knocking until one of the children wakes and shakes the father. The child tells the father that someone is knocking but the father says to go back to sleep.

They lie down and try to go back to sleep, but the mother sits up, disturbed by the constant knocking and shakes the father, but he tells her to be quiet and maybe the person will get tired of knocking and go away. The knocking continues. The father puts the pillow over his head until, in the end, everyone is sitting up and asking the father to go to the door.

The father calls out from his bed and asks who is knocking. He tells his neighbour to go away because they are all in bed, but the neighbour pleads and keeps asking for some food for his friend.

Finally, the father gives in, gets up and gives the neighbour some food.

**SUMMARY:**
The teacher should then bring in the spiritual application which is the most important aspect of the presentation. Encourage the children to be like the neighbour who cared enough about his friend to stand in the cold and pound on the family’s door.

Emphasis verses 9 and 10 - it is not enough to ask once, but to ask and keep on asking until God answers. In this way we show God that we are really serious about our prayers.
Write the story of the persistent neighbour from Luke 11:1-10
Pray without ceasing.  
1 Thess. 5:17

Up, down, across or diagonally—how many times can you find the word "Pray"?
Did anyone ever knock on your door at midnight and ask for bread? That's what happened to a man in a story Jesus told to teach us about persistence in prayer. Read the story in Luke 11:5-10

Use the code to find out what Jesus was teaching his disciples.

Σ Α Ω Π Π θ Σ ξ Λ Π

Ψ ξ ξ δ ξ ζ θ ζ Γ

ξ Λ θ Ε Λ Γ Ψ ζ Δ Δ

σ ζ Ε Λ σ Λ Λ φ

Σ ξ ζ Γ σ θ Σ Λ Σ ξ Λ Φ

Σ ξ θ Σ θ θ ζ ζ ζ Φ

Φ θ Σ Σ ξ Λ Ψ

ACDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
θ δ φ ι ρ σ ζ Δ Φ Γ Λ Π Σ Ω Ξ Ψ Ω
SPOT the 10 DIFFERENCES

Late at night a neighbour wanted three loaves of bread.

PERsist IN PRAYER