



The Biblical Basis For Asking

Transformational Fundraising | Ron Haas

Transformational Fundraising

- ① Obedience and Blessings
Elijah and the Widow (1 Kings 17)
- ② Purpose and Persistence
The Friend at Midnight (Luke 11:8)
- ③ Boldness and Prayer
Nehemiah's Major Ask (Nehemiah 1, 2)

1

Elijah's
obedience
and blessings.

“

You will drink from the
brook, and I have directed
the ravens to supply you
with food there.

1 Kings 17:4

ELIJAH'S OBEDIENCE

GOD'S UNEXPECTED GIFTS

- Gifts come from out of the blue.
- Sometimes, God blesses you with an unexpected estate gift!



A wooden boardwalk made of light-colored planks winds through a field of tall, green grass. The path curves from the bottom center towards the top left of the frame. The background shows a vast, open landscape with more grass and some low-lying shrubs under a bright sky.

God's
unexpected plan
for Elijah.



Go at once to Zarephath
in the region of Sidon and
stay there. I have directed
a widow there to supply
you with food.

1 Kings 17:9

“

Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?

This cost her nothing.

As she was going to get it, he called, ‘And bring me, please a piece of bread.



1 Kings 17:10-11

ELIJAH'S OBEDIENCE

GOD'S UNEXPECTED PLANS

- Sometimes the (funding) stream dries up.
- Tough times lead to major asks.
- God can lead you to the right people.



ELIJAH'S OBEDIENCE

WHY ARE YOU RELUCTANT TO ASK?

- I'm uncomfortable with asking.
- I'm not sure we should ask for gifts.
- We've never done it like this before.
- I think God will meet our needs, so we don't need to ask.
- I'm not sure asking for gifts is biblical.



A photograph of a crowd of people, likely in a church, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The image is softly blurred, focusing on the hands in the foreground. The text "Elijah kept asking." is overlaid in a large, brown, sans-serif font.

Elijah kept
asking.



Elijah said to her, ‘Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.

1 Kings 17:13



For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.

1 Kings 17:14

ELIJAH'S BLESSINGS

BENEFITS OF ASKING

- Tests a Donor's priorities.
- Triggers God's blessings.
- Teaches the Asker to trust God.
- Establish long-term relationships.



ASKING

TESTS A DONOR'S PRIORITIES

- If I give, will I have enough to meet my needs?
- Do I lay up treasures in heaven, or do I keep them for my security here on earth?
- How can I be sure that God will open the windows of heaven and pour out His blessings?

When you ask
for a gift, you
give a donor
something
new to
consider.





Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

ASKING TRIGGERS GOD'S BLESSINGS

If Elijah wouldn't
have asked...

the widow
would've cooked
a last meal for
herself and her
son and died.

Elijah
asked.

Elijah, the widow,
and her son
benefit. How did
they receive
blessings?

What if you
would ask?

Who would benefit
in your ministry?
In what ways might
they receive
blessings?



Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account.

Philippians 4:17

ASKING

TEACHES THE ASKER TO TRUST GOD.

- Focus less on donors' external wealth indicators.
- Realize that generosity is not always connected to a person's net worth.
- Seek potential donors who are “rich in faith” (James 2:5).



Jesus said that the widow gave more with her two mites than all the gold of the Pharisees combined.

Luke 21:1-3

ELIJAH'S BLESSINGS

ESTABLISH LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS

Some are afraid of asking their friends...
for fear that it will harm their friendships.

Asking for a gift...
begins relationships that will last an eternity.





Asking is transformational.



2

The Friend at
Midnight's
purpose and
persistence.



Then he 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, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.’”

Luke 11:5-6



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.'

Luke 11:7



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.

NIV Luke 11:8



But I tell you this—though he won't do it for friendship's sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your **shameless persistence.**

NLT Luke 11:8



He may not get up and give you the bread, just because you are his friend. But he will get up and give you as much as you need, simply because you are **not ashamed** to keep on asking.

CEV Luke 11:8

THE FRIEND'S PERSISTENCE

1. Our friend faced a desperate need.
So do you.

2. The hour was late.
Spiritually, the hour is late for you
to fulfill your mission.

THE FRIEND'S PERSISTENCE

3. Our friend was asking to benefit someone else.
So are you.

4. Our friend turned to his friend for help.
So should you.

THE FRIEND'S PERSISTENCE

5. His friend gave because our friend kept asking.
You must keep asking.
6. Asking impacted the man's entire family.
Asking benefits your ministry and beyond.



He may not get up and give you the bread, just because you are his friend. But he will get up and give you as much as you need, simply because you are **not ashamed** to keep on asking.

CEV Luke 11:8

3

Nehemiah's
prayer and
boldness.



They said to me, 'Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.' When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 1:3-4



The king said to me,
'What is it you want?'
Then I prayed to the
God of heaven, and I
answered the king.

Nehemiah 2:4-5

NEHEMIAH'S BOLDNESS

PRAYERS ANSWERED

- Time off
- Passports
- Royal timber
- Soldiers and laborers





The Israelites did as Moses instructed and asked the Egyptians for articles of silver and gold and for clothing. The Lord had made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for;

Exodus 12:35-36



The king had granted
him everything he asked,
for the hand of the Lord
his God was on him.

Ezra 7:6



Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

1 Timothy 6:17-19