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# Francis: 'Pray courageously'

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In prayer we must be courageous and discover the true grace that is given us: God Himself. That was the Pontiff's message at Thursday?s morning Mass at Casa Santa Marta, according to Vatican radio [1].

??At the heart of the homily was Jesus? insistence, in the day?s Gospel, that we pray with trusting insistence. The parable of the importunate friend, the friend who obtains what he desires thanks to his insistence, gave Francis the opportunity to reflect on the quality of our prayer: ??

?This makes us think, in our prayer: how do we pray? Do we pray like this, out of habit, piously but unbothered, or do we put ourselves forward with courage before the Lord to ask for the grace, to ask for what we?re praying for? Courage in prayer: a prayer that is not courageous is not a real prayer.

The courage to trust that the Lord listens to us, the courage to knock on the door . . . The Lord says: ?For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.? But you have to ask, seek, and knock.??

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