



PRAY ON!

Luke 18:1-8

Luke 18:1-8 (New Living Translation)

¹ One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. ² “There was a judge in a certain city,” he said, “who neither feared God nor cared about people. ³ A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, ‘Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.’ ⁴ The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, ‘I don’t fear God or care about people, ⁵ but this woman is driving me crazy. I’m going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!’” ⁶ Then the Lord said, “Learn a lesson from this unjust judge.

Luke 18:1-8 (New Living Translation)

⁶ Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. ⁷ Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth who have faith?"

TAKE HOME

- 1) Prayer may include a commitment to help God bring about the answer I seek.
- 2) God is not bugged by our persistence and constant beating on his door.
- 3) God can be moved. Can I?
- 4) It is not good for a man to pray cream and live skim milk. Henry Ward Beecher



Prayer Can Be Confusing

- Jesus said: “Give us daily bread”.
- But he also said, “Your father knows what you need”.
- Does God have everything laid out...or can he be moved to grant a favor?
- Should I only make my request once...or is persistent begging okay?



If Jesus Responded To Requests For Assistance, Does It Stand To Reason That God Does As Well?

- Paul encouraged petitions and requests to be made to God. Philippians 4:6-7
- God tells us to burden him with what burdens us.
- Jesus said 'that they should always pray and not give up'. Luke 18:1
- Have a testimony of a long season of prayer resulting in God's blessing?



A Matter Of Contrast, Not Comparison

- The judge is heartless...irritated at requests for help. God is not.
- She is a burden, a nuisance. We are not.
- If such a wretch can be moved to action...how much more, God



What Are We Called To Pray For?

- **Justice**
 - **Our enemies** Matthew 5:43-46
 - **Salvation of others.** Romans 10:1
- We usually pray to God not that **His will** be done, but that he approves ours. Helga Gross
- **Prayer involves commitment.** Look at the Lord's Prayer! Matthew 6
 - **For others.** Ephesians 1:15-19, Philippians 1:9-11, Colossians 1:9-13



Worship

Silent Night





Confession

**I believe that Jesus is
the Christ, the Son of
the living God.**

**I trust him as my Lord
and Savior.**

Offering



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Prayer



Announcements



Closing Chorus



Redeeming love,
a love that knows no limit;
Redeeming love,
a love that never dies;
My soul shall sing
throughout the endless ages
The adoration of
this great love on high.



**GO TO
PRAY ON!**

Luke 18:1-9