
04. Prayer: The Widow and The Judge

Luke 18:1-8

Introduction:

God always answers prayer. Sometimes the answer takes time, but according to today's story we should never lose heart in prayer, because God will answer sooner or later. When I was a child, the children in my neighborhood would ring the doorbell of the houses in our neighborhood, and then run. The owner of the house would come to the door and no one was there. For the children it was a game, a joke. But when it comes to praying to God, sometimes we pray like this: we ring the doorbell of heaven in prayer and leave before we receive an answer. We do not have the faith, nor the patience to wait on God until the answer comes. Today's story shows us our weakness in prayer, and encourages us to be persistent in prayer. Let's focus on the widow's prayer of faith.

How To Pray To Receive an Answer

Story:

The Widow And The Judge

Jesus told them a story to teach the people that they should pray always, without becoming discouraged. He said to them, "There was in a certain town a judge who neither feared God nor respected men. In the same town there was also a widow who had a lawsuit and who went to the judge to ask for justice against her adversary. For a long time the judge would not listen to her, but afterwards, he thought, **"Although I neither fear God nor respect men, nevertheless, since this widow keeps bothering me, I will defend him, so that he will not keep coming and put an end to my patience."**

And Jesus added: "This is what the evil judge said. Well then, will not God also defend his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he make them wait? I tell you, he will defend them without delay. But when the Son of Man comes, will he still find faith on earth?"

Instructions:

- Tell the story*
- Retell the story.*
- Tell the story with the help of others.*
- Have someone tell the story as accurately as possible.*
- Ask the seven questions.*

Questions:

- 1) What do you like about this story?
- 2) What do you dislike or find confusing in this story?
- 3) What did you learn about God and His character?
- 4) What did you learn about human beings and their character?
- 5) What did God show you in this story and what should you obey?
- 6) How will you remember this story? (Answer: Tell others.)
- 7) Who has God told to tell this story, and when will you obey?

Additional Questions:

- Jesus told this story for two reasons, what are they?
Answer: To teach that they should (1) pray always and (2) not lose heart.
- Describes the Judge in this story.
- Describe the widow.
- At last the judge attended to the widow. Why did he attend to her?
- Describes the difference between the judge and God.
- Verse 8 says: "When the Son of Man comes, will He still find faith on earth?" What does this verse mean?

Make a commitment to begin each day by spending time praying to God and waiting on Him until the answer comes, because God always answers every prayer.

Memory verse:

.....
Matthew 7:7-8

"Ask and it will be received, seek and it will be found, knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened."

.....