

# Small Group Questions

1. Do you have any funny stories about being distracted while you were praying? Share.
2. How is the prayer challenge going for you/your family?
3. Read Luke 18:1-8 and answer the following:
  - a. What is the context of this parable?
  - b. How are God and the judge similar? How are they different?
  - c. How are followers of Jesus and the widow similar? How are they different?
  - d. What do you think is the main point of this parable?
4. **Discuss what you think it means when the passage says we should “pray and not give up?”**
5. What does persisting in prayer look like? What helps you remain faithful?
6. **Pastor Dave said, “There is absolutely no resistance in God toward answering our prayers.” Do you believe this? Why or why not?**
7. If Jesus should come this week, would it interrupt your plans or simply be a face-to-face continuation of an ongoing conversation? Discuss.
8. What persistent (devoted, focused, fervent, sober) prayers in your life would you like the group to join you in praying? Spend time using that same persistency to pray for:
  - a. Our heart preparation for Easter and who to invite to the service
  - b. The Senior Pastor transition
  - c. Marriages to thrive in our groups, church and community

The address for the small group blog is [bethelchurch-smallgroups.com](http://bethelchurch-smallgroups.com). You will find helps for sermon questions and many more tools.

## PRAYER IS LIKE THIS . . . REALLY?!

Dave Bechtel | Luke 18:1-8 | April 9, 2017

Context: **The “days” of the Son of Man.** Matt 21:18-22; 6:7-8; 18:15-20; Js 5:16b;

Lk 17:22-37

Purpose: That we might pray and not give up.

II Pet 2:8

Parabolic parallels:

Lk 15:7, 10; 16:1-9;

Jn 14:14; 15:18; 16:23-27; I Pet 5:7;

Js 1:5; Matt 7:7-8, 11; Phil 4:19;

Mk 11:24; I Jn 5:14-15; Acts 1:14;

Rom 12:12; Col 4:2, 12;

I Thess 3:10; 5:17; II Thess 1:11;

Rev 5:8; 8:3-4

SIMILARITIES	
<b>JUDGE</b>	<b>GOD</b>
Has the power to answer requests	Has the power to answer requests
Knows what justice is	Knows what justice is
<b>WIDOW</b>	<b>DISCIPLES OF JESUS</b>
Of little esteem in this world	Of little esteem in this world
Have troubles	Have troubles
Know to whom they must go for help	Know to Whom they must go for help
Got what she asked for: justice	Gets what they ask for: justice
DIFFERENCES	
<b>JUDGE</b>	<b>GOD</b>
<b>Heartless, doesn't care for people, or justice</b>	Loves His children, concerned, cares about justice
Selfish, hard, fundamentally unwilling to help	Attentive, generous, ready, eager, fundamentally willing to help
<b>WIDOW</b>	<b>DISCIPLES OF JESUS</b>
Stranger to the judge, no access, no friend between	<b>God's elect, His children,</b> Mediator (Jesus), Intercessors (Jesus and Holy Spirit)
No promises, court of law, poor	Promises, throne of grace, riches in Christ Jesus

Implications: