



WHY KEEP PRAYING WHEN GOD ISN'T ANSWERING?

Luke 18: 1-8

One day Jesus told his disciples a story to illustrate their need for constant prayer and to show them that they must never give up.

“There was a judge in a certain city,” he said, “who was a godless man with great contempt for everyone. A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, appealing for justice against someone who had harmed her. The judge ignored her for a while, but eventually she wore him out. ‘I fear neither God nor man,’ he said to himself, ‘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!’ ”

Then the Lord said, “Learn a lesson from this evil judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end, so don’t you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who plead with him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when I, the Son of Man, return, how many will I find who have faith?”

WHY KEEP PRAYING WHEN GOD ISN'T ANSWERING?

“Jesus told his disciples a story to illustrate their need for **constant prayer** and to show them that **they must never give up.**” (Luke 18:1)

1. Not To Get God’s _____

“When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered only by repeating their words again and again. Don’t be like them, because your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!” (Matt. 6:7,8)

2. Not To Prod God _____

“if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! ...how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.” (Matt. 7:9-11)

“don’t you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who plead with him day and night?” (Luke 18:6)

1. To Woo Me To _____

“But if you remain in me and **my words remain in you**, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!” (John 15:7)

“Ask, using my name, and you will receive” (John 16:24) “in keeping with my will”

2. To Clarify My _____

“And even when you do ask, you don’t get it because your whole **motive is wrong**—you want only what will give you pleasure.” (James 4:3)

3. To Mold My _____

“I waited patiently for the LORD to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry” (Psa 40:1)

“**Be patient** in trouble, and keep on praying.” (Rom. 12:12)

“Always be **joyful**. Never stop praying. Be **thankful** in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” (1 Thess. 5:16-18)

4. To Keep Me _____

“Devote yourselves to prayer with an **alert mind** and a thankful heart.” (Col. 4:2)
“Pray at all times...**Stay alert** and be persistent in your prayers” (Eph 6:18)

Am I making _____ requests?

Am I tracking the _____?

Am I alert for _____?

5. To Fortify My _____

“But when I, the Son of Man, return, how many will I find who have faith?” (Luke 18:8)
“will He find (persistence in) faith on the earth?” (Amp; CEV; Msg)

“But when you ask him, be sure that you **really expect him to answer**” (James 1:6)

6. To Draw Me _____

“Let your unfailing love surround us, LORD, for **our hope is in you alone.**” (Psalm 33:22)

“Lord, where do I put my hope? **My only hope is in you.**” (Psalm 39:7)
“I wait quietly before God, for **my hope is in him.**” (Psalm 62:5)