

“WHY BOTHER?”

Luke 18:1-8 - Pastor Bruce French

Why bother to pray more?

1. More prayer results in a greater _____.

Luke 18:3

ASK...

- In what areas of my life do I need to increase my _____ on God?

2. More prayer results in godly _____.

Luke 18:4-5

ASK...

- In what areas of my life do I need to increase in godly _____?

3. More prayer results in an equitable _____.

Luke 18:6-7

ASK...

- In what areas of my life do I need to experience divine _____?

TAKE HOME TRUTH

More prayer results in a solidified _____.

ASK...

- In what areas of my life do I need to increase my _____?

Today's Core Belief:

Prayer: I pray to God to know Him, to confess sin, make my requests before Him and to find direction for my daily life. *(from Psalm 66:16-20)*

Today's Action:

Take time for the next 4 days to contemplate and pray about one stated question per day from the outline.



Deeper Connection Study

Jesus uses parables to bring some incredible practical truths to light by connecting to real-life situations. His hearers get drawn into the story and Jesus highlights something important about God's care for us.

Today's Core Practice discussed: Prayer.

Read Luke 18:1-8

1. Why did Jesus speak this parable and to whom (v. 1)?
2. In what ways is God like and unlike the judge mentioned in this parable?
3. When you face injustice, are you moved to prayer (cf. Rom. 12:12)? How do you implore God to act on your behalf or for someone else (cf. Eph. 6:18)?
4. What is your view of God when it comes to praying? Do you expect him to answer your prayers (cf. Matt. 21:22)? Why or why not?
5. How does persistent prayer enhance the faith of the one who prays (cf. Col. 4:2)?
6. How would you describe your prayer life? How do you want to grow in prayer? In what ways do you think it will help your relationship with God and others?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God that he hears our prayers! Ask God to help you grow in greater devotion and fellowship with Christ through prayer. Pray for Christians who are being persecuted around the world (see Acts 4:23-31).

WHY BOTHER?

"LIFE PRINCIPLES IN THE PARABLES"

MAY 13, 2018 - Luke 18:1-8

Every believer at one time or another struggles with their prayer life. Sometimes you just are not in the mood to pray. Other times it seems that your prayers are merely hitting the ceiling without an effect. Sometimes an anemic prayer life is because a person feels distant from God and that creates a barrier, making it hard to put forth an effort. Whatever the reason for a dull prayer life, everyone has been there.

This reality produces a valid question, "Why bother?" Why bother to persist in praying? If God is sovereign and will always do what he has divinely planned, why bother? If God is aware of what our needs are before we present them, why bother? If God has predestined a person's life, why bother to ask him to do something different?

Evidently Jesus sensed that his disciples were questioning the purpose of continued prayer when doors continued to close. So Jesus crafted a parable to emphasize the point of persistent prayer in order to inspire them to not grow weary in intercession.

How about you, has your prayer life increased or decreased in the last six months, and do you feel motivated to persevere? If not, then pay close attention.