

GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE

Get Into The Word

Leader Edition



Week of Sunday January 26, 2025

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Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

Introduction

In Luke 18, we will explore and discuss the power and persistence of prayer. Jesus' parable of the widow and the unjust judge teaches us about consistency, fervency, and the barriers that may hinder our prayers. As we delve into this passage, we will examine how our lives, faith, and prayer frequency impact our communication with God. Together, we will identify practical steps to bolster our prayer lives, ensuring we remain steadfast and faithful even when answers seem delayed. Let's open our hearts to God's transformative power through prayer.

Disciple Measure

Spirit-Led Follower: What would your prayer life indicate is your primary focus in life?

Notes:

Discussion Questions

What to Do When You've Given Up On Prayer?

HIGHLIGHT

Have someone read aloud...

[Luke 18:1-8](#)

EXPLAIN

Discuss the following questions...

Opening Question: Share about a time when you felt discouraged in your prayer life. What was the situation, and how did you handle it?

1. How does the parable of the persistent widow challenge or encourage your view of prayer?
2. Discuss the concept of prayer as a discipline. How can we cultivate a habit of consistent prayer in our daily lives?
3. How does unconfessed sin impact our prayer life? Why is it important to address this?

Have someone read aloud [1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#).

4. How can this passage help us remain persistent, like the widow, when we feel like giving up?
5. How do we see other individuals in the Bible pray, and how do we see the Lord respond to them? What can we learn from these individuals?

Questions for Families

Here are some questions you can discuss with the whole family.

Luke 18:1-8

What do you think this Scripture shows us about God and how He listens to us?

Guide younger children by discussing how God is always listening and wants to help us. For older kids, explore the idea of God being much more caring than the unjust judge and how He responds out of love.

How do you think the widow felt when she kept asking the judge for help? Do you think we can feel the same way sometimes when we pray?

With younger children, use examples of times they've had to keep asking for something. Encourage older children to share personal experiences where persistence was important, and discuss feelings of patience or frustration.

What can we learn from this Scripture about how we should pray or talk to God?

Help younger children see that they can talk to God anytime and should keep praying no matter what. For older children, discuss the importance of consistency and faith in prayer, even if answers aren't immediate.

NT 260

WEEK: 5

- Luke 21
- Luke 22
- Luke 23
- Luke 24
- Acts 1

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 5:9-10

Resources

Resources to Listen To

Bible Recap Luke 18



Tara-Leigh Cobble gives an overview of Luke 18 [here](#).
(8 min)

Resources to Watch

Bible Project Acts Overview: Acts 1-12



Watch and overview of the first 12 chapter of Acts and it's main themes from the Bible Project, click [here](#).
(8 min)

Life Group Resources

We have a variety of resources and are continually adding new ones. Some of our resources include group launch guides, on-demand training modules, and curriculum resources. To request a resource, reach out to us at groups@longhollow.com.

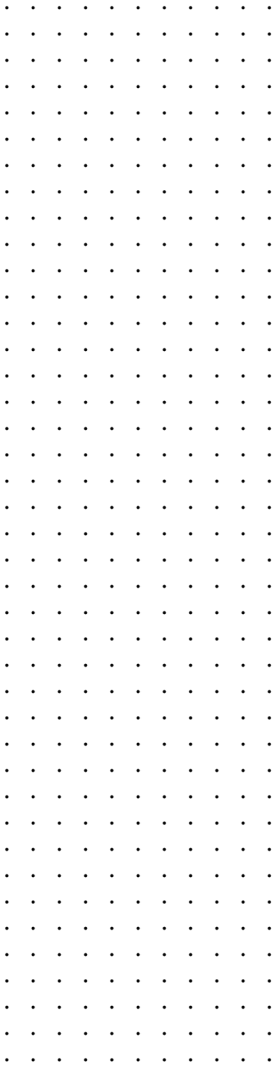
D-Group Resources

If you or someone you know would like to start a D-group, we have everything you need, including reading plans, journals, and a launch guide to walk you through the first four meetings.



Commentary

Notes:



A Bit of Background

During Jesus' time, widows were often very vulnerable. They didn't have the same legal rights as men, and without a husband or male relative to take care of them, they were often left without support. The widow in the story doesn't have anyone else to advocate for her, so she takes matters into her own hands by approaching the judge over and over again.

Judges in Jesus' time were expected to be fair and just, often making decisions in line with religious and moral laws. However, it seems the judge in this parable is more concerned with his own comfort than with justice. This would have struck Jesus' listeners because judges were meant to be upright models of fairness, especially in a society that valued religious teachings.

In Jewish teaching and thought, regular and sincere prayer was very important. This parable fits into that tradition by emphasizing not just the act of praying but the attitude we should have when we pray. Being persistent in our prayers shows that we truly believe in God's goodness and timing.

Biblical Timeline



Sermon Notes

Luke 18:1-8 CSB

Now he told them a parable on the need for them to pray always and not give up. “There was a judge in a certain town who didn’t fear God or respect people. And a widow in that town kept coming to him, saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’ For a while he was unwilling, but later he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or respect people, yet because this widow keeps pestering me, I will give her justice, so that she doesn’t wear me out by her persistent coming.’” Then the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. Will not God grant justice to his elect who cry out to him day and night? Will he delay helping them? I tell you that he will swiftly grant them justice. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

Spirit-Led Follower

A disciple who walks with Jesus daily, anchoring their lives to God's Word and obediently following the Holy Spirit where He leads.

Intentional Friend

A disciple who is always looking for ways to care for others and meet their needs. This is a practical way to be present in the lives of those around us.

Humble Guide

A disciple who is a humble guide takes every opportunity to help people take their next step closer to Jesus. This is someone who is constantly looking for opportunities to have Gospel conversations and speak truth into someone's life.

Force For Good

When a disciple lives out their God-given calling, they naturally become a force for good where they live, work, and play. This type of person is looking for opportunities to meet needs, heal brokenness, and bring tangible hope to the people in their life and in their community.



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