

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Will He Delay Long Over Them?

In Luke 18:1-8 the Lord told a parable ***“to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart”*** (verse 1). The crux of the parable is that a widow persisted in bringing her petition before the judge in that city. This judge, the Lord said, ***“...did not fear God and did not respect man”*** (verse 2). Initially this judge was unwilling to act on behalf of the widow, but she continued to come before him. Finally, the judge gave in to her and settled her case in her favor.

In verses 6-8 Luke recorded the point of this parable. He wrote, ***“And the Lord said, ‘Hear what the unrighteous judge said: now will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?’”***

The lesson for disciples to understand from this parable is that God does not have to be nagged in order to act on behalf of His people. He will, in fact, bring about justice for His people and will not delay His response to their prayers. Our God is not like the unrighteous judge. He is already inclined in our favor because we have been purchased by the blood of His one and only Son. His desire is to respond favorably to our petitions, so long as those requests are in accordance with His revealed will.

This truth should be of great comfort to Christians. As we struggle with the many challenges of life, we are not left without recourse by or God. He stands ready to act on our behalf, if we will only bring our needs before Him in prayer. Unlike the gods of the pagans, or the unrighteous judge in the parable, our God does not have to be goaded into answering our prayers. All we have to do is ask in faith, nothing doubting. This is what James said in James 1:5-8. In context James was speaking about asking for wisdom from God, but the principle still stands. If we expect God to answer our prayers we must ask in faith.

This is a principle that the Lord alluded to in the parable in Luke 18. In verse 8 as the Lord declared that God would bring justice quickly for His people, He asked, ***“However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?”*** His question points us squarely to the matter of faith. As we make our requests to the Lord in prayer, we must believe that He will answer our prayers and grant them. For the Lord to wonder if He would find faith on the earth at His return, suggests that we need to give this more attention than perhaps we have previously done.

There is another aspect of this parable that is interesting, and which bears upon the question of prayer. In verse 7 the Lord said that God would bring justice for His elect ***“who cry to Him day and night.”*** This phrase suggests that the prayers of the elect will be offered continually until an answer is received from the Lord. While we do not have to nag God in order to get a response from Him, it is clear that He expects

us to repeatedly offer our petitions to Him. This repetitive asking suggests our dependence upon Him, and also suggests our faith in Him. Too often we pray about something once or twice and then give up on it. Then we wonder why our requests were denied.

If we truly have faith in God, we will pray continually until our petitions are answered. We will pray in confidence that God will answer in the way that is best for us, and that He will not delay long over our requests.

—Fred Dominguez

Prayer Requests

Jimmy Weaver is undergoing tests to find out why his blood platelets are so low. Jimmy has been dealing with a blood infection for some time now. Terresia is asking that you keep him in your prayers that the doctors will find an answer.

Carol Cooper (Mildred Lee's daughter) has been diagnosed with early stage breast cancer. The doctors plan on doing the surgery sometime this month and are very optimistic on the end results. Carol lives in Aransas Pass, TX.

Kirk McFarland has a torn Rotator Cuff in his shoulder and is experiencing some pain.

Julie Munoz has requested prayers for her husband, **Jr. Munoz**, at this time.

Lon Howard, a former member, is scheduled for more surgery Wednesday, September 21st.

Honorio Ramos has been under a doctor's care.

Ann Wilson (Denny's mother) is not doing very well at this time. Please keep her in your prayers.

Betty Anderson, mother of Mary Brown's daughter-in-law (Lonna Bayless), has been given only days to live. Please keep Betty's family in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Hattie Mae Gilmore was released from the hospital on Friday, September 2nd.

Marilyn Upshaw is still at Medical Center Hospital—Room #635. Marilyn fell and broke her right hip.

Ivan Rigby (Devida's cousin) is still in North Carolina and unable to travel back to Ohio; however, his condition has improved slightly.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell, Susan Bosse, Mack Bradford; Betty Branson; Bobbie Braun; Krizdon Brown; Bill Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Isabel Chacon; Eddie Chavez; Steve Chavez; Zane Chism; Leta Collier; Barbara Crowder; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Ethan Driggers; Cassandra Driver; John Ford; Monica Garcia; Bill Gibbons; Hattie Gilmore; Kelsey Gomez; Anna Groves; Natalie Hudson; Bobby Hunt; Charles & Helen Jones; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Elder McCarty; Russ Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Laura Olivas; Amber Parker; Trina Plyler; Earlene Poses; Elvia Ruckman; Montrella Ruffner; Andrew Schwarz; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; James Singleterry; Madison Smith; Bob Spurlin; Cheryl Thompson; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells; Ryan Lee Wint; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Ruby Davis; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; Marilyn Upshaw; and Lester Whisenant.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

When they came out of Jerusalem on their way to Golgotha to crucify Jesus, they laid hold upon one Simon; him they compelled to bear his cross after Him. Of what country was Simon?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

You can read about the life of David in the books of Samuel and Kings.

Events

Watch **"In Search of the Lord's Way"** every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the **"Speaking the Truth in Love"** program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Office News

The **"Tipton Children's Home"** truck will be in Odessa October 25-27 for any food items and supplies we have collected for them. They are requesting... **Whole Dill Pickles, (Saltines, Club, Ritz Crackers), Assorted Cereal, Chicken Broth, Sliced Peaches, Green Chilies, Canned Tuna & Chicken. (Requested Supplies) Aluminum Foil, 13 and 30 Gallon Can Liners, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Small liquid hand soaps.** (Note: Their list is also posted on the Bulletin Board)

Food Pantry

Note: This is to let our members know that our food pantry is not set up to keep perishable items such as flour, corn meal, sugar, Bisquick, etc. These items (if kept in an un-air- conditioned room) will go rancid very quickly and even attracts unwanted creatures. So please bring only canned goods & packaged items. Thank you.

Food for Thought...

Example is a language all men can read.

The longer a man is wrong, the surer he is he's right.

Nothing ruins truth like stretching it.

September 11, 2016 A.M.

Announcements Jeff Wesson
Song Leader Rudy Ochoa
Sermon Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer Jeff Wesson
Scripture Josh Weakland
Second Prayer Jacob Carson
Closing Prayer Bill Brown
Lord's Supper
West... Craig Wesson

East...

Jr. Munoz
Richard Siler
Mike Roemisch
Josh Weakland
Josh Wells

P.M.

Jeff Wesson
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
Richard Siler
Denny Wilson
Bill Butler

John Wood
Communion
(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 556-5547; *Deacon*: Bill Ryan 272-5507 *Pulpit*: George Warren 557-2171 *Table*: John Wood 413-7444; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; **Recording Duties**: Chris Butler 362-7486; **Collections**: Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

"Stephen"
(Acts 6:8)

Sunday PM

"Duties One to Another"
(I Peter 3:8-12)

Our Records

Bible Class... 71
*Morning Worship...*122
*Evening Worship...*56
*Wednesday...*79
Contribution...\$4,144.25