

**“PERSISTENT PRAYER”
BREAKTHROUGH – PART 5**

January 29, 2023

“...Men always ought to pray and not lose heart.”—Luke 18:1

JESUS ON PERSISTENT PRAYING

(Luke 11:5-8) "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'? I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs."

(Luke 18:2-8) "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. (3) Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.' (4) And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man; (5) yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.' (6) Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. (7) And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? (8) I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

God is _____ to Answer My Prayers.

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WHY DOES GOD WANT ME TO PRAY PERSISTENTLY?

- **IT KEEPS MY _____ ON GOD**
- **IT MAKES ME _____ MYSELF**

(Lamentations 3:40-41) "Let us search out and examine our ways, and turn back to the LORD; Let us lift our hearts and hands to God in heaven."

(Zechariah 13:9) "I will...refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them."

Four Areas of Self-Examination when Praying:

1. **MY _____**
"Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart." Psalm 37:4 (NLT)
2. **MY _____**
"Why be like unbelievers who worry about everything? Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs, and he will give you all you need IF your first concern is to live for His Kingdom." (Matthew 6:32-33)
"No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who do what is right." (Psalm 84:11b -NLT)
3. **MY _____**
"God left Hezekiah on his own for a while to see what he would do; God wanted to test his heart." (2 Chronicles 32:31b – MSG)
"The Lord led you through the wilderness for forty years, humbling and testing you to prove your character, and to find out whether or not you would really obey his commands." (Deuteronomy 8:2 – NLT)
4. **MY _____**
"Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for at the right time, we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up." (Galatians 6:9)

FOUR WAYS GOD ANSWERS MY PRAYERS

- **When My Request Is Not Right, God Says:** " _____ "
- **When My Character Am Not Right, God Says:** " _____ "
- **When The Timing Is Not Right, God Says:** " _____ "
- **But, When My Request, My Character, & The Timing All Lined Up, God Says:** " _____ "

"Pray at ALL times, and on EVERY occasion, in the power of the Holy Spirit. ALWAYS stay alert and be PERSISTENT in your prayers for ALL Christians EVERYWHERE." –Ephesians 6:18

Key: Ready; Willing; Focus; Examine; Desires; Priorities; Maturity; Faith; No; Grow; Slow; Go