

Luke 18:1-8

¹One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.

²"There was a judge in a certain city," he said, "who neither feared God nor cared about people.

³A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, 'Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.'

⁴The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, 'I don't fear God or care about people,

⁵but 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!'"

⁶Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge.

⁷Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?

⁸I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! **But when the Son of Man* returns, how many will he find on the earth who have faith?"**

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Look at what this commentary has to say about prayer.

1 John 5:6-10

What breathing is to a physical man, prayer is to a spiritual man. If we do not pray, we "faint" ([Luke 18:1](#)). Prayer is not only the utterance of the lips; it is also the desire of the heart. "Pray without ceasing" ([1 Thessalonians 5:17](#)) does not mean that a Christian is always saying an audible prayer. We are not heard for our much speaking ([Matthew 6:7](#)). No, "Pray without ceasing" suggests the attitude of the heart as well as the words of the lips. A Christian who has his heart fixed on Christ and is trying to glorify Him is praying constantly even when he is not conscious of it.

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What is interesting is that the Bible tells us the rulers of the earth are under His control. So an earthly judge who is corrupt renders justice under persistence but our God knows our needs even before we ask Him.

He wants to hear our voice. As mentioned above this does not have to be an audible voice but a heart's cry to the heavenly father who gives good things to His children. He wants us to have faith. Those who walked with Christ on the earth - seen and touched Him and gave witness to this fact. And Jesus tells us if we (those who lived with Jesus while He walked the earth) have seen Him, they have seen the Father.

John 6:46-48

46 No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father.

47 I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.

48 I am the bread of life.

NIV

But now we walk by faith and are blessed because we believe and have not seen, though our spirit bears witness with His Spirit, the Holy Spirit, that these things are true - that Christ is both the Lamb and the Lord (kurios) and now resides within us through His Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:14-17

14 For all who are ^Abeing led by the Spirit of God, these are ^Bsons of God.

15 For you ^Ahave not received a spirit of slavery ¹leading to fear again, but you ^Bhave received ²a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "^CAbba! Father!"

16 The Spirit Himself ^Atestifies with our spirit that we are ^Bchildren of God,

17 and if children, ^Aheirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, ^Bif indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

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Our song, our hearts desire should always be to commune with the one who died for us because we are now His children and are no longer of this world.

We fear God, that is to say we give Him reverence and a place in our lives. We seek to honor the one who laid down His life for those yet not even born.

We read the Bible and now our spirit is quickened due to the Love the Lord imparts within our hearts, and our spirit bears witness and cries out to the Lamb our songs of praise and adoration as we read of His great love for us in His word.

This is a prayer that I believe radiates and vibrates out of our being and gives witness to His great power. If God's light shines in me because I believe, then when I read His word I'm plugged into the universe's greatest source of power and how could this light not be seen!

Prayer is the Christian's greatest source of power and great expression of love when it is within His will. It is telling our Heavenly Father that we love Him, believe who He is.

As children need to tell mom and dad of what is needed when they feel their needs are not met, so we petition the Lord. It's just as if we were little children at times and though our needs are more sincere as adults, we inwardly cry out when we sense danger and rightly so. We cling to the neck of our Father as do little children and the parent senses what is needed and always checks to see that the child is ok.

Do you have faith? Do you believe your Heavenly Father in His word?

Our spirit should be testifying of the fact the God is our Father. Now He is not exactly like our earthly father and we cannot treat Him as such, but a comparison is made that we need to know is true – that God loves us and wants us to commune with Him. He is the great covenant maker and even spilling His own Son's blood that we may believe and have His Spirit dwell within us.

Christ is coming to a bride – the church – without wrinkle or blemishes

Ephesians 5:25-27

²⁵ ^A Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and ^B gave Himself up for her,

²⁶ ^A so that He might sanctify her, having ^B cleansed her by the ^C washing of water with ^D the word,

²⁷ that He might ^A present to Himself the church ¹ in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be ^B holy and blameless.

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If we have faith, we need to wash ourselves with His word. We need to read the Bible in order to be clean and if we do not do so, or really do not want to, it is because of our fallen nature that does not want to have the light of His word expose our dark deeds and thoughts. If we are saved, then we do not want to partake of the things of this world. This is proof that we are His children. If we fail, as we will do at times, we pout about as a child who knows it displeases father. Then we know we are His. If we sin without any remorse and have been calling ourselves Christian, we are not truly acting as such and can we really claim to be His and never obey Him?

We are first sanctified – made into saints – by His death on the cross of Calvary for our sake. Then we might cry out Abba Father, then reading His word brings joy and correction to us. Don't worry that you fail and the Bible points this out. Aim to be Holy, continue to read His word, continue to go to church, ask for prayer and seek forgiveness from our Lord. Ask trusting Christian friends for help – the ones you can trust. His word bears witness with our self when His Spirit resides within us. Thank God for that!

As we mature, we become more Christ like. We learn, by patient endurance, the reading of His word, and sound Bible teaching what we ought to be. So let us draw close to Him who loved us so much He died in our place that we might become his sisters and brothers, children of His very Father in Heaven.

Hebrews 10:16-24

¹⁶ "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds." ^b
¹⁷ Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more." ^c
¹⁸ And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.
¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus,
²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,
²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,
²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.
²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.
²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

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Psalms 19:8-14

⁸ The commandments of the LORD are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are clear, giving insight for living.
⁹ Reverence for the LORD is pure, lasting forever. The laws of the LORD are true; each one is fair.
¹⁰ They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.
¹¹ They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them.
¹² How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.
¹³ Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.
¹⁴ May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

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Mark 5:25-34

²⁵ A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years,
²⁶ and had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse –
²⁷ after hearing about Jesus, she came up in the crowd behind Him and touched His ¹ cloak.
²⁸ For she ¹ thought, "If I just touch His garments, I will ² get well."
²⁹ Immediately the flow of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her ^A affliction.
³⁰ Immediately Jesus, perceiving in Himself that ^A the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My garments?"
³¹ And His disciples said to Him, "You see the crowd pressing in on You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'"
³² And He looked around to see the woman who had done this.
³³ But the woman fearing and trembling, aware of what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.
³⁴ And He said to her, "Daughter, ^A your faith has ¹ made you well; ^B go in peace and be healed of your ^C affliction."

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I wanted to add this story for its illustration of the power of faith in Christ. This women suffered terrible psychological pain due to her physical illness. Since she had an issue of blood, blood was something unclean and you were not allowed to touch anyone who was considered unclean till they went through the ritual of cleansing, but this women bleeds unexpectedly, so you really could not nor want any physical or social association for fear of the consequences. If she sat on your chair, you would have to get rid of your furniture. She was an outcast in this society.

We read her story with the hindsight and blessing of the New Testament in our hands. She had none. She had a persistent hope in God. She saw the Living Word and God would render justice to her and that He is fair. Or else, she would never go into a crowd of people and expose herself to more public humiliation and touch a rabbi.

When life deals you a deck of cards that is not fare, you press on and do your best to achieve what you believe is God's best for you. This is what this sister did. She came out in the open and put her faith in Christ. That is what we do when we first come to Christ when asked to come forward due to our issue of blood – we are sinners and we reach for Christ in faith that He may heal us and become acceptable to God.

During the same time Jesus restored the life of this women, He also brings back to life a little girl who just dies. He does both of these things to each person who comes to faith in Him. He can restore the life you have now and He will raise you from the dead at the appointed time. www.Jesus-abc.com/php/Heaven.php