

**“The Parable of the Tenacious Widow” 7/4/10**

**Luke 18:1-8**

**Studies in the Parables of Jesus**

**PHARMACIST STORY**

**POINT 1-** Our prayer life should be characterized by focused TENACITY

- A. Our tenacity in prayer is rooted in the fact that we are HELPLESS (the widow helplessly went directly to the judge. Where do we go?)
- B. Our tenacity in seeking help would pay off with an unjust judge (he had no shame or compassion, but self-interest in getting rid of her)

**Going Deeper** *God desires for us to always pray and not lose heart or motivation!*

**POINT 2-** Our prayer life should be founded upon the character of GOD

- A. The character of God and our position should give us some BOLDNESS (Heb 4:16; Genesis 18:17-33; 32:24-27; Exodus 32:9-14; Num 14:1-20)
- B. The character of God demonstrates that He responds QUICKLY (Daniel 10; John 5:17; Rom 8:28; James 1:2-12)

**Going Deeper** *God wants us to embrace His character of a loving Father in prayer!*

**Why no response in prayer at times?**

- 1) Sin- Isaiah 59:2
- 2) Pray with doubt- James 1:6-7; “Will the Son of Man find faith on earth?”
- 3) Wrong motives- James 4:3
- 4) Wrong request outside of God’s will- 1 John 5:14-15
- 5) We give up- Luke 11:1-13; 18:1-8
- 6) No glory given to God- Isaiah 42:8- we might attribute it to coincidence
- 7) Looking for God to do what we are unwilling to fix- finances/marriage/etc.

**Always a response**

- 1) John 5:17
- 2) Daniel 10- took three weeks to get a response
- 3) Could be “no, wait, maybe, or something better”

**Would you have wanted God to answer EVERY one of your past prayers?**

**Challenge** \_\_\_\_\_

A young man went into a drugstore to buy 3 boxes of chocolate: small, medium, and large. When the pharmacist asked him about the three boxes, he said, "Well, I'm going over to a new girlfriend's house for supper. Then we're going out. If she only lets me hold her hand, then I'll give her the small box. If she lets me put my arm around her, then I'll give her the medium box. But if she lets me kiss her on the cheek, I'll give her the big box." He made his purchase and left.

That evening as he sat down at dinner with his girlfriend's family, he asked if he could say the prayer before the meal. He began to pray, and he prayed an earnest, intense prayer that lasted for almost five minutes. When he finished his girlfriend said, "You never told me you were such a religious person." He said, "And you never told me your dad was a pharmacist!" ***WHAT IS YOUR REASON?***