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Passage: Luke 18: 1 – 8

Characteristics of the widow: Persistent; did not give up even when faced with obstacles

Characteristics of the judge: Did not fear God nor care about men; questionable on what he based his judgments, if not according to God's principles

The widow symbolizes Christians and people in need. We should not give up on praying when it seems that God did not answer our prayers. We should check if our request is in line with God's will and heart. To persist in prayer does not mean painfully long prayer sessions, but constantly praying. God may delay in answering prayers, but through persistent prayers we'll grow in faith, hope and character. If the answer to our prayer is no, then God will open up another opportunity.

Should we continue to pray even though we know that what we pray for may not be God's best for us?

Can we change God's heart and plan by persistent prayers?

When our hearts are close to God, our prayers will be aligned with his heart and what we pray for will match His will. Psalm 37 shows us that God will grant our heart's desires and we can see it as God putting those desires in our hearts. We need to start with faith and pray for good things. Do not be discouraged nor give up, but continue to grow close in God.

In the end, will God find us faithful in going back to Him with prayers persistently?

Are we persistent in appealing to our authorities in issues we believe in? Are we more persistent than the opposition?