

# **THE PRAYER LIFE OF A GOOD SOLDIER**

Luke 18:1-8      Jeff Schreve

**What does Jesus want us to know about prayer?**

**1. Prayer is a challenge.**

A. The answers we seek are not immediately given.

B. The anguish we feel in waiting can cause us to give up.

*I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; Be strong, and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD. Psalm 27:13-14*

**2. Prayer is essential.**

A. Prayer is the means by which we talk to God.

B. Prayerlessness is a sin of pride, bitterness and self-deception.

*"And I searched for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. Ezekiel 22:30*

*But the God in whose hand are your life-breath and your ways, you have not glorified. Daniel 5:23*

**3. Prayer is powerful when it is God-directed and persistent.**

A. God is nothing like the unrighteous judge.

*"Hear what the unrighteous judge said; now shall not God ...  
Luke 18:6-7*

*Therefore the LORD longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; How blessed are all those who long for Him. O people in Zion, inhabitant in Jerusalem, you will weep no longer. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears it, He will answer you. Isaiah 30:18-19*

B. Answered prayer comes through truth and persistence.

*And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him. 1 John 5:14-15*

C. God is working, even when we cannot see it.

*"My Father never stops working, and so I work too."*

*John 5:17 ERV*

**4. Prayer will be lacking as we near the Lord's return.**

*However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8*

**What do you need to change in your prayer life?**