



LIFEgroup HOMEwork

Week of February 5, 2012

Whispers From Headquarters - Luke 18:1-8

Jesus tells this parable in Luke 18 for one reason. He wants us to learn to pray persistently and not give up praying. This is not for God's benefit, but for our benefit. Our loving Heavenly Father is not hard of hearing and He is not stubbornly callous to our needs. He wants a vital, authentic relationship with His children. That relationship requires an active conversation that is a two-way dialog. If you have ever suffered through a one-way conversation, you can imagine how God must feel when we bombard Him with our needs and neglect to listen to Him.

Throughout the Bible, we read, "God said," over and over again. Our God spoke audibly at various times in Biblical history, and He has clearly spoken through His Word, through His Spirit and through prophets and earth shaking miraculous events. He has spoken in a gentle whisper and as a voice from Heaven at Jesus baptism. Sometimes God speaks through a prompting by the Holy Spirit and sometimes through Spirit inspired enlightenment and conviction of sin. The real question is, do we have the same spirit of the boy Samuel when he responded to God's voice with, "Speak, for your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10 NIV)

Sharing Question:

Who is the finest conversationalist you know?

Getting Started Questions:

When was the last time that you lost your patience?

What is one insight, thought or challenge from Sunday's sermon that stuck out to you?

What is one prayer request that you have been tempted to stop praying about, because you have been growing weary in patiently waiting for God to act?

Homework:

Read Luke 18:1-8. In your own words...

Describe the judge:

Describe the widow:

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Describe God's attributes, in contrast to the unrighteous judge, that contributes to your confidence that God will answer your prayers:

Pastor Stan described prayer as a two-way conversation that involves both talking and listening.

What are various forms/practices for talking to God?

List as many ways as you can, of examples of how God talks with us?

If you have sensed the prompting of God in your life, describe the circumstances:

Read 1 Kings 19:9-12. Describe how God chose to reveal Himself to the discouraged Elijah:

Has God ever spoken to you in a gentle whisper?

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Read the following verses and list what you learn about God's promise when we pray:

Jeremiah 29:12

Jeremiah 33:3

Isaiah 55:6

Deut 4:29

2 Chronicles 15:2

Acts 17:27

Write a prayer to God:

How can our group help each other to be persistent in prayer and not give up?

Memory Verse: Jeremiah 33:3. *"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."* (NIV)

