

**THE STORYTELLER**  
“The God Who Hears”  
March 14, 2010  
Luke 18:1-8 (ESV)  
LG Study Guide

### MY STORY

1. What do you think are the most common misconceptions about prayer?
2. When and how often do you pray? What motivates you to pray?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. This week’s parable found in Luke 18:1-8 is actually a continuation of Jesus’ response to the question raised by Pharisees as noted in Luke 17:20. What was that question concerning and how is this parable relevant to that question?
2. The characters in the parable are drawn sketchily but vividly. What images come to mind when you think about the widow? The judge?
3. Quite often, what we believe about God guides and shapes how we pray. What are some lies about God that tend to get in the way of your prayer? For some of us, it might not necessarily be what we believe about God, but the discrepancy between our belief about God (ex. the Provider) and our experience of God (ex. loss of job) that causes us to lose heart. Share the most potent hindrance to your persistence in prayer.

4. As Pastor Stephen pointed out during his message, the judge in the parable is not meant to represent God. Rather, Jesus used the reluctant judge to highlight the importance of persistence in our prayers and faith journey.

If it is indeed true that God--unlike the reluctant judge--does not withhold good things from His children (v.7), why is being persistent in our prayer still important for us? You might find it helpful to look up the verses below before you respond to the question.

- Philippians 1:29
- 1 Peter 4:12-13
- 1 Peter 5:8-10

5. Besides our perception of God, an accurate understanding of who we are in Christ is crucial to healthy prayer life. In what ways are we not like the helpless widow in the parable according to the following verses?
  - Psalm 139:15
  - Romans 8:17
  - Galatians 4:7
6. How can this parable encourage you to keep on praying?

### BRINGING IT HOME

1. Think of one or two areas where you are discouraged and ready to give up praying. Pray for one another.
2. Please continue to share your blessings from your Life Journal devotionals.

\*\* LifeGroup Study questions are available for pick up at the Information Center located in the lobby. They are also available online at [www.ynccla.org](http://www.ynccla.org).

\*\* CDs of today’s message will be available next Sunday in the YNCC office. Previous weeks’ sermon CDs are also available in the office. All sermons are viewable online at [www.ynccla.org/sermons](http://www.ynccla.org/sermons).

