

Jesus Magnified

Luke 18

Lesson 15

FIRST DAY: Read Luke 18

When troubles, trials, hard times, and critical decisions hit your life, what is your first response? Do you panic? Get angry? Call your friends? Look for an escape? Lose heart? Luke tells us that the parable Jesus taught in chapter 18 was intended to move us to pray always about everything! *Then He spoke a parable to them, that men ought always to pray and not lose heart.* Prayer is not only the presentation of our needs and circumstances to God, but it is also communication with our heavenly Father. It is through the venue of prayer that God works.

This week we will be studying what Jesus had to say about prayer, as well as those who come to Jesus for blessing, direction, reward, and healing. Jesus desires us to make prayer our first response to any situation; only prayer will avail!

Ask God to make prayer your first response.

SECOND DAY: Read Luke 18:1-8

1. According to Luke 18:1, Men _____ ought to _____ and not _____.
 - a. What is most often your first response to hardship?

 - b. How does this truth speak to you?

2. From Jesus' parable in Luke 18:2-5 comment on:
 - a. The *widow*
 - (1) Her circumstances

 - (2) Her request

 - (3) Her activity

b. The *unjust judge*

(1) His attitude

(2) His resolve

3. In Luke 18:6-8a (NLT) Jesus said, *Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to His chosen people who cry out to Him day and night? Will He keep putting them off? I tell you, He will grant justice to them quickly!* What lesson do you receive from this?

a. How does this *parable* speak to you concerning your prayers?

4. Record Jesus' challenge from Luke 18:8b.

a. Where can you apply this challenge in your life?

b. What connection do you see between prayer and faith?

5. How does your study today encourage you not to *lose heart*?

THIRD DAY: Read Luke 18:9-17

1. Jesus spoke another *parable* about *two men* to those who *trusted* in their own righteousness and *despised others* (Luke 18:9-10). Use Luke 18:11-14 to fill in the chart below:

	PHARISEE	TAX COLLECTOR
How he prayed	Verses 11-12	Verse 13
Result	Verse 14	Verse 14
Your takeaway		

- a. Link this parable with James 4:6. What do you see?

2. According to Luke 18:15a, who was *brought* to Jesus?
 - a. How did the *disciples* react? Luke 18:15b

 - b. How did Jesus respond? Luke 18:16

 - (1) Link this with Matthew 18:5 and share your thoughts.

3. Write Jesus' bold statement from Luke 18:17.
 - a. How would you explain what Jesus is declaring?

b. This encounter also appears in the Gospel of Mark. Read Mark 10:21. What do you see?

c. Use Luke 18:23 to remark on the ruler's reaction to Jesus' counsel.

(1) Jesus always draws attention to the very thing that will inhibit us from experiencing Him fully. What thing, or things, has Jesus drawn your attention to?

3. In your own words, write what Jesus said when He *saw* the ruler's reaction. Luke 18:24-25

a. What does this convey to you concerning *the kingdom of God*?

b. Some *who heard* Jesus say this asked, *Who then can be saved?* (Luke 18:26). Print Jesus' response from Luke 18:27.

(1) How does this truth affect you?

FIFTH DAY: Read Luke 18:28-34

1. After the rich *ruler* departed, unwilling to relinquish his wealth, Peter remarked, *See, we have left all and followed You* (Luke 18:28). Link this with Matthew 19:27. Share a time you have felt this way.

a. What did Jesus promise in reply? Luke 18:29-30

b. Link Jesus' promise with Luke 12:31-32 and share your thoughts.

(1) How will you apply this promise to your life?

2. Jesus then *took the twelve aside* to tell them what would happen as they went *up to Jerusalem*. From Luke 18:31-33 note and remark on what Jesus said concerning:

a. The prophets

(1) Link this with 1 Peter 1:10-12. What do you see?

b. The Gentiles

c. His suffering

(1) What do you find remarkable about this conversation Jesus had with *the twelve*?

3. From Luke 18:34 observe the disciples' response. Why do you think *these things* were *hidden* from the disciples?

4. What is your takeaway from today's study?

