

Men-Sharpen-Men
January 15, 2016
Prayers of Supplication

Scripture:

Luke 18:2-8 - ²He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’ ⁴“For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’” ⁶And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

Psalms 5:1-3 - Listen to my words, LORD, consider my lament. ²Hear my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray. ³In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

Psalms 4:1 - Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

Psalms 6:1-2 - LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath. ²Have mercy on me, LORD, for I am faint; heal me, LORD, for my bones are in agony. ³My soul is in deep anguish. How long, LORD, how long?

Psalms 7:1 - LORD my God, I take refuge in you; save and deliver me from all who pursue me,

Questions:

- 1) What is a prayer of supplication? Does the parable in Luke 18 contain a prayer of supplication? Explain this parable.
- 2) Is it possible for you to pray for five minutes without asking the Lord for something? Is this a good or a bad thing? Discuss the merits of both.
- 3) Is it necessary to balance your prayer life in a particular pattern or fashion?
- 4) Do you ever wonder what you should be praying about?

Additional Scripture for discussion:

Ephesians 6:18 - ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Philippians 4:6-7 - ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:26 - ²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

James 4:2-3 - ² You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.