

## Spiritual Resolutions: Prayer

Deuteronomy 4:7 ❖ Luke 18:1-8

*“More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice rise like a fountain for me night and day.”*

(“Morte D’Arthur,” Alfred Lord Tennyson, 1845)

### The Power of Prayer

The true story of a prayer warrior ...

What/ who gives prayer such power?

Moses asked God’s people, “What other nation is so great as to have their gods **near** them the way the Lord our God is **near** us whenever we **pray** to Him?” (Deuteronomy 4:7)

According to surveys, **fewer** Americans pray to ease stress - 29% compared to 37% ten years ago. Can you guess what are the two most popular ways to relieve stress?

### The Parable of the Persistent Widow

“Jesus told His disciples a parable to show them that they should **always** pray and not give **up**” (Luke 18:1).

A **widow** persistently asked an **unjust** judge to grant her justice against an adversary. For some time he **refused**.

Why did the judge finally see that the widow got justice?

Jesus didn’t compare the judge to God; He **contrasted** them.

Who is the ultimate Judge?

Jesus said, “Will not God bring about justice for His **chosen** ones, who cry out to Him day **and** night? Will He keep putting them off? I tell you, He will see they get justice, and **quickly**” (Lk 1:7-8a).

## Timing and Answers

“It is a mark of the disciples of Jesus that they practice **constant** contact with the God who they know always hears their prayers. His answer may not always be what **they** hope for; it may sometimes be **no**; it may often be **wait**. Such faith has to be **cultivated**, even among those who understand the principle.” (“The Message of Luke,” Michael Wilcock, 165).

## Three Prayer Models

1) The Lord’s Prayer

2) A  
C  
T  
S

3) Five Finger Prayer

## Takeaway

What/ who gives prayer such power?

“When the Son of Man comes,” Jesus asked, “will He find **faith** on the earth?” (Luke 18:8b)

What are some practical ways to be more persistent in prayer?

1)  
2)  
3)

Jesus said, “We should **always** pray and not give **up**.”

