



STUDY GUIDE

AHA MOMENTS 07.28.2019

[start with prayer]

Missions Prayer Focus this week:
For God to call more church planters from CVC

[set up]

Share about a time you prayed for something or someone and you saw how God answered that prayer. Did He answer “yes” or “no”? Or did He answer differently than you saw in your mind? Or, share about a prayer that you have been praying for a long time but haven’t seen answered yet. Why do you keep praying it?

[digging deeper]

Consider this statement: *Prayer is the exercising of our faith.* Do you agree? Explain why or why not.

Read Luke 18:1-8.

Many have misapplied this teaching to say that Jesus was instructing us to harass God in prayer until we get what we want. That is not the point of this parable. This parable contrasts an unjust and evil judge who finally gives in to a persistent widow—illustrating how much more our just, holy, and righteous God answer prayers that benefit His beloved children.

As you look over this passage:

- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about ourselves?
- What do we learn about prayer?

If you were to summarize these verses in one sentence, what comes to mind?

Colossians 4:2 Romans 12:12 1 Thessalonians 5:17

It helps us to hear/read about how others process and live out their faith when God doesn’t answer prayer the way we want. Read the following article by a woman named Joni who desperately and consistently prayed for a healing that God did not give.

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/joni-earekson-tada-praises-healing/>

- What stuck out to you?
- How can you relate to Joni?
- How is Joni’s faith in Christ like your faith in Christ? How is it not?

(over)

If you were to sit down with someone tomorrow who is struggling to trust God because He has not answered a prayer of theirs yet, what would you say to encourage them? If you dare, pair up for 10 minutes and role play that in your LifeGroup.

As you think through the application of what you have studied today, give an application for each area:

- For the Global body of Christ as we wait on the return of Jesus.
- As Christians living in the U.S.
- For us as a church.
- As a family.
- As an individual.

[living it out]

If comfortable, share one prayer that you are persistently, or will begin to persistently, pray.

What kind of tool will you use to remind you (special card or bookmark, a post-it note, phone alarm, prayer app, etc.)?

[praying it up]

Close in prayer groups of 2-3 and use Luke 18:1-8 as a prayer guide to pray. How can you praise and thank God (upward)? How can you confess and admit your need for help (downward)? How can you ask God for help and lift up the request you shared today (outward)?

Upcoming "Seek Night" (prayer night) August 14th - a back to school prayer night for our families and communities. Mark your calendar, bring your kids, and let's pray over our students, teachers, and schools!