

Lesson Eight

The Unjust Judge

Scripture Reference: Luke 18:1-8

Memory Verse: "And I say unto you, ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." (Luke 11:9)

"Let's go play baseball, Tom."

"I don't believe I'll go, Andy. Thanks anyway."

"Why not? Come on we'll have lots of fun."

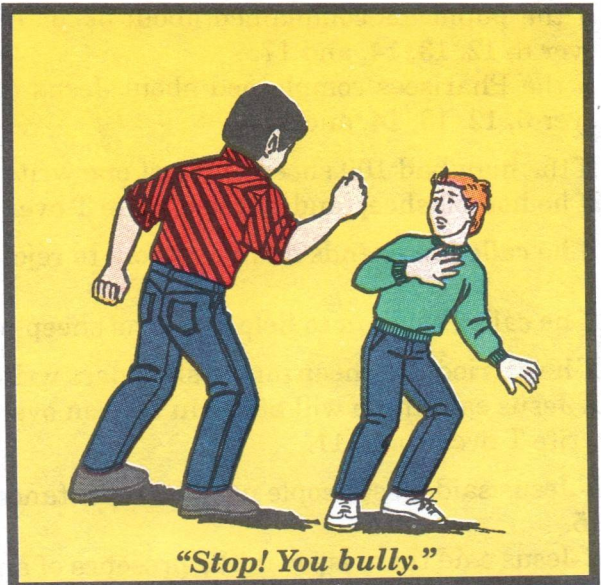
"Maybe you will but Phillip is sure to be there and he'll take all the fun out of it for me. Every time I get near him he jumps on me or teases me. A little of that is not so bad but I sure get tired of that bully. I'm going to talk to Dad about it when he comes home. I don't know what to do about it. He's so much bigger than I am."

Later that afternoon Tom did talk to his Dad.

"Well, son I don't want you to be afraid of bullies. Usually if someone calls their bluff they turn out to be cowards. But Jesus also told us to love our enemies and do good to them. Have you tried that? It may be hard but I guess it was hard for Jesus to love those who nailed Him to the cross. Jesus also told us to pray to God for help. Have you been praying?"

"Yes, a little, I guess."

"Don't give up too soon. Jesus told a parable to teach us to keep praying. There was a judge who did not believe in God and had no respect for men. But he gave justice to a poor defenseless widow just because she was so persistent. To keep her from wearing him out with continual pleading he helped the widow. Jesus then pointed out that the just, loving heavenly Father will certainly help us if we are mistreated.

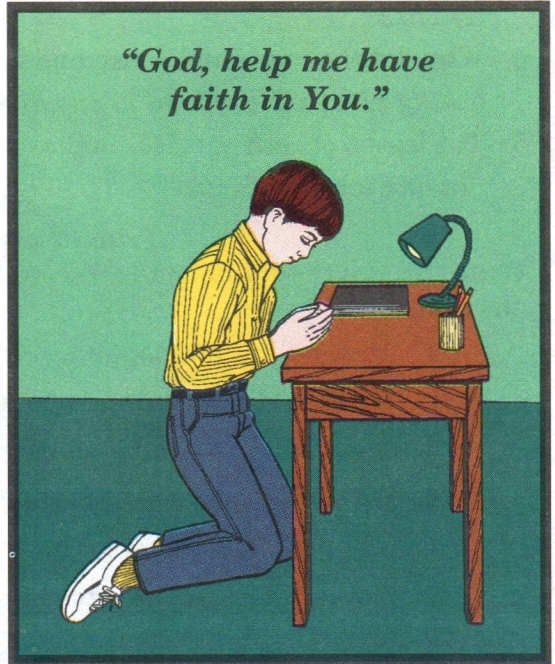


He told another parable showing we should keep praying. In Luke 11:5-13 we are taught to keep on, not to give up."

"But, Dad, why would God let anybody get by with wrong for a long time?"

"We may not know all the reasons and they may not always be the same. Maybe He wants to give the sinner a chance to repent. Sometimes it does us good to be mistreated. We learn how it can make us more careful not to tease or hurt others. It may make us more patient and appreciate how much we depend on the Lord. Anyway, Tom, try to love the bully. There is something wrong with him or he wouldn't be that way. Pray about it and be patient when he mistreats you. You don't have to stay around him more than you can help. Then if God waits a

long time to answer your prayers that the bully stop bothering you, just remember God does right all wrongs now or later. Then don't give up. Keep praying in faith."



Questions To Answer

Fill in the blanks.

Jesus told a parable to the end that they should always _____ and not to _____, or give up. There was in a certain city a _____ who feared not _____ nor regarded _____. There was a _____ who came often saying _____ me of mine _____. The judge finally decided to give her what she wanted lest she _____ him out by her _____ coming.

Underline The Best Answer

1. At the end of the parable Jesus asked if He shall find what on the earth when He comes? (a) *Faith* (b) *Justice* (c) *Love*.

2. In Luke 11:5-13 the man went to his friend at what time? (a) *Early morning* (b) *Midnight* (c) *Noon*.
3. How many loaves of bread did he want to borrow? (a) *One* (b) *Two* (c) *Three*.
4. Why did the man finally rise and loan him the loaves? (a) *He kept asking him* (b) *He offered to pay him* (c) *He was his friend*.
5. The lesson of both parables is that we should (a) *be friendly* (b) *keep praying* (c) *show justice*.

True - False

Write "true" if the statement is true and "false" if any part of the statement is false.

- _____ 1. Most bullies are popular.
- _____ 2. We should pray for and about people who mistreat us.
- _____ 3. Jesus said, ask and it shall be opened unto you.
- _____ 4. We should pray for things only once.
- _____ 5. God punishes sinners right away after they sin.
- _____ 6. If others mistreat us we can become better Christians because of it.
- _____ 7. There is something wrong with anyone who mistreats others.
- _____ 8. The unjust judge thought he loved God and man.
- _____ 9. The unjust judge heard the widow and avenged her the first time she came before him.
- _____ 10. If we have to suffer injustice God is not answering our prayer.

Questions For Discussion

1. What are some things that may happen to young people your age that are unjust or not right?
2. What can you do about those who mistreat you?
3. How long should we keep praying to God about anything? Should we pray longer about some kinds of things than about others?
4. What does it mean to pray in faith? Does God ever answer "no" to our prayers? Why?
5. What should you do if you see a bully mistreating someone else?

Read The Message

The following letters are in the correct order but the spaces are in the wrong place. See if you can space it so you can read it.

God wil lans werou rpra yers, eit herye sorno.

Crossword Puzzle

Across

1. A _____ who feared not God. (Luke 18:2)
6. Not told.
8. Abbreviation for street.
9. The priests tried to put Jesus to _____. (Luke 22:2)
11. Also _____.
13. There was in a _____ a judge. (Luke 18:2)
14. Pilate wrote a _____ for the cross. (John 19:19)
17. Name of the stone where David hid. (I Samuel 20:19)
18. King of Bashan. (Numbers 21:33)
19. Peter began to _____ Jesus. (Matthew 16:22)

Down

1. To do judgment and _____. (I Kings 10:9)
2. He spake a parable _____ them. (Luke 18:1)
3. Abbreviation for "dutch treat."
4. The judge feared not _____. (Luke 18:2)
5. God will avenge His _____. (Luke 18:7)
7. Give us our _____ bread. (Matthew 6:11)
10. Abbreviation for "ten thousand elect."
12. There are also many _____ things which Jesus did. (John 21:25)
15. We must give account of _____ words. (Matthew 12:36)
16. Jesus was about thirty years of _____. (Luke 3:23)
18. Mark of approval.

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