

OHANA STUDY GUIDE

May 30-June 5, 2010

Sermon: "Never Give Up Praying" June 6, 2010
Luke 18:1-8

1. Read v.1-3. To whom is Jesus addressing this parable?
 - a. Do you ever find yourself tempted to give up on prayer?
 - b. If so, what circumstances bring that about?

2. What kind of judge did the widow in the parable appeal to for help?
 - a. What was she asking of the judge?
 - b. List some ways that going to God in prayer is similar to going before a judge for legal help.

3. Read v.4-5. Why do you suppose the judge refused to help the widow at first?
 - a. What was it that finally convinced him to give her what she was asking for?

b. What qualities do you find in the widow that we can learn from when we pray to God?

4. This judge was afraid of being "worn out" by the persistence of the widow. Is God in any way like the judge?

a. Does God sometimes grant our prayer requests just to get us to stop bothering Him so much?

5. Is it possible that our prayers are not answered because we lack the persistence of the widow of this parable?

a. How do you reconcile her persistence with Jesus' words in Matthew 6:7, "And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words?"

6. Read v.6-8. In what way or ways is God like the judge in this parable?

a. How is He different from the judge?

b. How can we be sure that God will not put us off like the judge put the widow off?

7. When your prayers are not answered by God in the way you ask, what

should you conclude?

Explain why Jesus asks the question at the end of this parable (v.8).