

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

FIGHT CLUB PT 4 - HOW TO PRAY AND NOT DOUBT GOD'S LOVE OR LOSE HEART

Scripture: Luke 18:1-8

Pastor Mingo Palacios – 27 Sept 2015

Pastor Mingo gave a powerful new insight on the parable of the persistent widow from Luke 18:1-8. Instead of a God who is all powerful but very reluctant to grant us our prayers, our God is overflowing with love for us - just like Jesus. In the parable, it was shown that God is just the opposite of the unjust judge and no matter what our circumstance is, we should NOT fall for the lies the enemy offers and HAVE NO doubt how much God loves us. Our identity is in the image of God the Father, and we all are like scattered treasure - we all belong to Him and our job is to gather the treasures in the places they are lost and return them to the Lord.

MEMORY VERSE

Jesus said: ³²But I have prayed for you, Simon that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

Luke 22:32

DISCUSSION STARTERS

1. When you were a kid, was there something you asked for over and over, or obsessed about hoping to wear down your parents in order to get it? Share what that was and what was the outcome?
2. Everyone at the meeting has most likely had some kind of spiritual attack. Share an example of how you were lied to ("jacked up") in the past week to cause doubt about God's love for you. Remind everyone: They STILL showed up for the Life Group gathering!



STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Mingo gave an example of being a loving parent by requiring his young son to be buckled into a car seat before driving. The 4 year old often resisted the rule or 'boundary' of being buckled in. Share a circumstance or situation you have had or are currently experiencing that was/is frustrating and causing doubt of a loving God.

2. In Deuteronomy 1:27, Moses was recounting the Israelites being upset with their circumstances (that being traveling in the desert to the Promised Land), and said to the nation of Israel 'you grumbled in your tents and said, "the Lord hates us"...' Share an experience or circumstance where you felt for at least a moment that the Lord hated or was mad you. Looking back, can you come up with a reason God put you in that circumstance?

3. **Read Luke 22:31-32** Jesus prayed for Simon Peter AHEAD of time before Peter was faced with a trial. Share a time when you had a trial or challenge and your faith was sifted (shaken) as a result. When you came out of that trial, were you strengthened? Were you able to benefit any others as a result of that?

4. **Read John 5:19** One of the lies the devil tries to use is that God is like the unjust judge in Luke 22, and that if we beg long enough, we *might* get what we pray about. Have you ever thought Jesus was more loving and compassionate than God the Father? How does that reflect on your identity or your image on how God the Father views you?

For these questions, suggest breaking into groups of 2 or 3.

5. **Read Ephesians 1:17-19**

Prayerfully meditate for a few moments on this passage.

Where is God leading you in order to get closer to Him? What boundary or circumstance are you resisting?

Encouragement for others:

What ability in you shows God's glory to others?

In this series on prayer and fighting Spiritual warfare, what has changed in you?

Prayer from others: Based on today's message, what do you need persistent prayer from a loving God for?



PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

God is satisfied with each and every one of us. While we may not be WHERE He wants us to be, He loves us more than we can imagine. Pray for Spiritual wisdom and revelation to bring you on the path to get to where God wants you to be.

TAKE IT HOME!

Prayer Guide

I am going to pray for _____.

I affirm that I am _____.

I reject the lie that I am _____.

I will not let go or stop praying until you _____.

