



PRAYING WITHOUT GETTING DISCOURAGED

Slide 1

Lately, Yanis' parents met **Slide 2** his teacher.

Slide 3 - Yanis has made good progress, he told them, but this term he is becoming lax about his work, **Slide 4** he needs to resume his efforts!

Do you understand what that means? It started well, **Slide 5** but there are friends, **Slide 6** games, mockery, **Slide 7** screens and the results of his work that have not been as good as he thought. In short, lots of things that gradually leads him to working less. **Slide 8** He relaxed too much, a little discouraged. It's time for him to pull himself together. Warnings and encouragement from his parents and teachers will help him get back on his feet:

Slide 9 - If he perseveres in his work, **Slide 10** he will make it, the teacher adds.

Slide 11 "Persevere even if the results are not yet there" is what Jesus once said to his disciples.

Slide 12 - Persevere in prayer and do not be discouraged when God does not answer right now.

Slide 13 We will listen to the parable He told them and at the end you can answer my question: Why is it important to persevere in prayer?

It is in **Slide 14** chapter 18 of the Gospel of Luke that you will find this parable of **Slide 15** the persevering woman.

Slide 16 PRAY WITH PERSEVERANCE

Slide 17 The disciples are gathered around Jesus who tells them a parable:

Slide 18 "A woman dressed in black knocks **Slide 19** on the door of a large, beautiful house. Knock Knock knock...

Slide 20 - Open up, Judge! Open to me, please!

Slide 21 Nothing moves ... The woman continues:

Slide 22 - Open up! **Slide 23** I know you are there!

Slide 24 After a long time, the door opens and **Slide 25** a man appears. His jaws are clenched, he is frowning, he visibly very angry.

Slide 26 - You again! It's at least the tenth time that you have been disturbing me!

- I'm sorry, Your Honor; **Slide 27** I really must speak to you!

Slide 28 - I have no time to waste with you. Go away!

He's already about to close the door, but she insists:

Slide 29 - Your Honor, these people have been causing me harm for a year. They take advantage of the situation because I am a widow and **Slide 30** I have no one to defend me, you know that well.

The judge shrugs his shoulders.

Slide 31 - You are the judge. So **Slide 32** do me justice! I only claim that my right, nothing else!

He is more and more annoyed and impatient to see her go:

Slide 33 - I'll think about it!

Slide 34 - It's always what you say and you never do anything.

Slide 35 - Yes, yes, I'll think about it, **Slide 36** but go away now, I'm busy. **Slide 37** Go on! Go away!

He slams the door in her face. **Slide 38** On the way home, she meets a friend.

Slide 39 - So how did it go?

Slide 40 - As usual! This man really has no heart; yet he knows very well that I am a widow and have no money. **Slide 41** He refuses to do me justice when people take away from me what little I have.

Slide 42 - It's a shame! This man doesn't care what people **Slide 43** think. He doesn't fear God yet one day he will have to be held to answer for his behavior. **Slide 44** What are you going to do now?

Slide 45 - I will go back as many times as I need to!

Slide 46 Meanwhile, **Slide 47** the judge tries to calm down:

Slide 48 - She is really annoying, this woman! **Slide 49** She got me into one of those rages!

Slide 50 If she comes back I will throw her out! ... He mutters.

Slide 51 He sits down in his chair and thinks for a long time:

Slide 52 - Oh! But there is something better to do, he says to himself, **Slide 53** I'm going to look at her case and she will no longer come and pester me! **Slide 54** This is the best way to finally get rid of her! Otherwise, she is well capable of coming back every week!

Slide 55 A few days later, **Slide 56** the widow returns to the judge...

Slide 57 - Come in, **Slide 58** I will examine your case, **Slide 59** we will bring it to a satisfying conclusion and your rights will be recognized. **Slide 60** I 'm signing your document now!

Slide 61 Jesus looks at his disciples and says to them:

Slide 62 - Do you understand what this story means?

Slide 63 If a judge, mean and unjust as he is, has finally **Slide 64** responded to this woman's request, it was because **Slide 65** she persevered; then all the more so will **Slide 66** God, your Father who is in heaven, who is fair and good answer **Slide 67** the prayers of his unhappy children who cry out to Him, night and day? Even if he doesn't do it straight away? How could He not rescue them? **Slide 68** I tell you that He will answer them. He will do them justice if they have faith in him. **Slide 69** Pray and do not give up

Slide 70 1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!

*It can happen **Slide 71** that we pray and God does not answer right away. Maybe it happened to you? So we can get discouraged and stop praying. But in this parable, Jesus encourages us **Slide 72** to continue, to persevere. Why? Well, **Slide 73** that's the question: - Why is it important to persevere in prayer?*

Slide 74 Because our Father who is in heaven is righteous **Slide 75** and good. **Slide 76** He hears our prayers, our cries, our supplications. **Slide 77** He always responds. He takes care of us all the time, but **Slide 78** He knows when and how He will do it. He takes into account what's **Slide 79** best for us, for you like for me. He can say **Slide 80** "Yes!", **Slide 81** "No!" or **Slide 82** "Wait!", these are answers.

I therefore encourage you to continue to pray with perseverance and confidence like Jesus tells us to.

Slide 83 4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!

*Most children are spontaneous and enthusiastic. They like things to change quickly and they often lack patience. They live in the moment. Just press a button and presto, here is the answer, but with God it is not the same. He does not necessarily answer "first go"! If nothing happens quickly, they can be disappointed. It is therefore important to remind them that **Slide 84** God is always attentive to their prayers, that he loves them and that **Slide 85** he will give them the best answer at the right time.*

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