



S E R M O N G U I D E

No Limits with Dr. Delman Coates

How To Pray For Results

Luke 18:1-8

INTRODUCTION	NOTES
One of my favorite things to talk about is prayer, specifically, the power of prayer. When we pray, we access the power of Almighty God. We can see amazing things we've only dreamed of come to fruition through prayer. But in this message, I want us to look at <i>how</i> exactly we get results through prayer. There are three specific things you must do if you want to see your prayers bring results. Let's look at those three things now.	
KEY POINTS	
1. You Must Pray God's Will Jesus tells a story about an unnamed woman who petitions an unjust judge in order to obtain the fair treatment she deserves. While we don't know the nature of her cause, the point is the underscore the fact that the appeal she makes is rooted in a righteous cause. It is a cause that is firmly rooted and grounded in the will, way,	
and the Word of God. She is not asking for anything frivolous. She is not seeking something that is superficial. She wants justice which, according to the law, the history of her people, and the moral code of the universe is rooted in the will of God.	
The path toward praying for results is paved with prayers that are in line with God's will. That is why Jesus punctuated His prayers with "not My will, but Your will be done." And this is just one of many verses that you can find to support praying and pursuing the will of God. Remember, God's greatest concern is not that you get everything you want, but that you become who He created you to be and that you live out His will for your life.	
2. You Must Pray Specifically There is a story in Matthew 20 of two blind men. Verse 30-34 tells it this way, "Two blind men were sitting beside the road. When they heard that Jesus was coming that way, they began shouting, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!' 'Be quiet!' the crowd yelled at them. But they only shouted louder, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!'	

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When Jesus heard them, He stopped and called, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Lord,' they said, 'we want to see!' Jesus felt sorry for them and touched their eyes. Instantly they could see! Then they followed Him."

Jesus asked these men, "What do you want me to do for you?" He wanted them to be specific. Without being specific, you do not have direction. And the same is true in your prayer. What are you praying for? God wants you to be specific! If you want to find results in your prayer. It starts with aligning your desires with God's will. Then, you must be specific. What do you want from Him? Be specific in prayer.

3. You Must Pray With Persistence

It is not enough to pray one time and think God is just going to instantly answer you. Sometimes, God wants to see how much you really want what you are asking for. There are countless examples throughout Scripture of imperfect people who do amazing things and receive amazing blessings.

How were they blessed? Because they didn't give up. They prayed persistently. What they were asking God for was important to them. It was important enough to take time out of their daily lives to pray for — not monthly...not weekly...DAILY. Daily they were going to the Lord in prayer.

How bad do you want what you're praying for? God might just be waiting to see how much it means to you, how much you really want what you are asking for. Remember, one prayer for five minutes doesn't really communicate that you want it badly. So pray with persistence.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1.	Do you believ	e your current pr	ayers are aligned	l with God's will? W	hy or why not?

2. On a scale of 1-10, how specific are you with your prayers? Is there room for you to grow in how specific your prayers are?

3.	What is something you could pray for more persistently than you have been?			

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