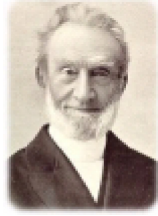


Because of His Importunity



"...Yet because of his *importunity* he will rise and give him as many as he needeth."
(Luke 11:8)

“Nov. 19 [1846]. – I am now led more and more to *importune* the Lord to send me the means, which are requisite in order that I may be able to commence the building. Because (1) it has been for some time past publicly stated in print, that I allow it is not without ground that some of the inhabitants of Wilson Street consider themselves inconvenienced by the Orphan Houses being in that street, and I long therefore to be able to remove the Orphans from thence as soon as possible. (2) I become more and more convinced, that it would be greatly for the benefit of the children, both physically and morally, with God’s blessing, to be in such a position as they are intended to occupy, when the New Orphan-House shall have been built. And (3) because the number of very poor and destitute Orphans, that are waiting for admission, is so great, and there are constantly fresh applications made. Now whilst, by God’s grace, I would not wish the building to be begun one single day sooner than is His will; and whilst I firmly believe, that He will give me, in His own time every shilling which I need; *yet I also know, that He delights in being earnestly entreated, and that He takes pleasure in the continuance in prayer, and in the importuning Him, which so clearly is to be seen from the parable of the widow and the unjust judge, Luke xviii. 1-8.* For these reasons I gave myself again particularly to prayer last evening, that the Lord would send further means, being also especially led to do so, in addition to the above reasons, because there had come in but little comparatively, since the 29th of last month.

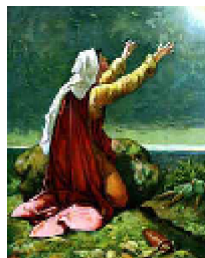
This morning, between five and six o’clock I prayed again, among other points, about the Building Fund, and then had a long season for the reading of the word of God. In the course of my reading I came to Mark xi. 24, ‘What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.’ The importance of the truth contained in this portion I have often felt and spoken about; but this morning I felt it again most particularly, and, applying it to

the New Orphan-House, said to the Lord: 'Lord I believe that Thou wilt give me all I need for this work. I am sure that I shall have all, because I believe that I receive in answer to my prayer.' Thus, with the heart full of peace concerning this work, I went on to the other part of the chapter, and to the next chapter. After family prayer

I had again my usual season for prayer with regard to all the many parts of the work, and the various necessities thereof, asking also blessings upon my fellow-labourers, upon the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and upon the precious souls in the Adult School, the Sunday Schools, the Six Day Schools, and the four Orphan-Houses. Amidst all the many things I again made my requests about means for the Building. **And now observe: About five minutes, after I had risen from my knees, there was given to me a registered letter, containing a cheque for £300, of which £280 are for the Building Fund, £10 for my personal expenses, and £10 for Brother Craik. The Lord's holy name be praised for this precious encouragement, by which the Building Fund is now increased to more than six thousand pounds."**

(Taken from "Answers to Prayer" - from George Muller's Narratives)

Persevering in Prayer



Luke 18:1-8

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

¹ Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, ²saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. ³Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, "Get justice for me from my adversary.' ⁴And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, "Though I do not fear God nor regard man, ⁵yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her **continual coming** she weary me.'" ⁶Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. ⁷And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? ⁸I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man

comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

Luke 11:5-10

A Friend Comes at Midnight

⁵ And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves; ⁶for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him"; ⁷and he will answer from within and say, "Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you"? ⁸I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, **yet because of his persistence** he will rise and give him as many as he needs.

Keep Asking, Seeking, Knocking

⁹ "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Genesis 32:24-26

Wrestling with God in Prayer

²⁴Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. ²⁵Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. ²⁶And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks."
But he said, "**I will not let You go unless You bless me!**"

Mark 10:46-52

Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

⁴⁶ Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaheus, sat by the road begging. ⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Then many warned him to be quiet; **but he cried out all the more**, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you."

- ⁵⁰And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.
- ⁵¹So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?"
The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."
- ⁵²Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

Matthew 15:21-28

A Gentile Shows Her Faith

- ²¹ Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon.
- ²²And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed."
- ²³But He answered her not a word.
And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us."
- ²⁴But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."
- ²⁵Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "**Lord, help me!**"
- ²⁶But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs."
- ²⁷And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."
- ²⁸Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

¹⁷Pray without ceasing.

Ephesians 6:18

- ¹⁸Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all **perseverance** and supplication for all the saints.

Romans 12:12

- ¹²Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing **steadfastly** in prayer.

Colossians 4:2

² Continue **earnestly** in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving.

James 5:13-18

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray... The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man **avails much**. ¹⁷Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. ¹⁸And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

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