

# BREAKTHROUGH

## *Week Four - Persistence*

*“Be persistent in prayer and keep alert as you pray.” – Colossians 4:2 (TEV)*

*“Once, when Jesus had been out praying, his disciples asked, ‘Lord teach us to pray... Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, our trespasses, as we forgive those who have sinned against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.’” – Luke 11:1-4*

*“But then, he said, ‘Suppose you went to your neighbor’s house at midnight, and knocked on his door.’ And said, ‘An out of town guest has just arrived at my place. He is hungry and I’ve got nothing to feed him so I need to borrow three loaves of bread!’ Your neighbor would probably whisper from the inside of his house, ‘Don’t bother me! The door’s already locked for the night. We’re all in bed. I can’t wake everybody just to help you!’ But even though he would not help you out of friendship, if you keep persistently knocking on his door, he’s going to get up and he’s going to give you what you need because of your persistence. I tell you this. Keep on asking and you’ll get it! Keep on seeking and you’ll find! Keep on knocking and the door will be opened to you! For everyone who asks receive and everyone who seeks will find. If you keep on knocking, the door will be opened to you.” – Luke 11:5-10*

*“One day, Jesus told his disciples another story to illustrate that they should always keep on praying and never give up. There once was a big city judge, who didn’t care at all about God or people. But there was an elderly widow who kept coming to this judge over and over pleading for the judge to protect her rights and do something about a man who had cheated her. For a long time this judge just ignored her pleas. The judge just ignored her pleas for help but eventually he had enough. He thought to himself, ‘You know, even though I don’t care at all about what God or what this woman thinks, I’m tired of her pestering. I’m just tired of her pestering requests so I’m going to see that she gets justice to get her to be quiet and stop bothering me!’ Then the Lord said, ‘Now, learn a lesson from this uncaring judge.’ ‘Even if that corrupt, uncaring judge eventually gave into that woman’s request, won’t God who loves you deeply surely give you what is right if you keep crying out to him day and night?’” – Luke 18:1-8 LT*

### **Four reasons God wants me to be persistent:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“My eyes are continually looking to the Lord.” – Psalm 25:15*

*“Look to the Lord for his strength; seek his face constantly.” – Psalm 105:4 NIV*

---

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"I will test and purify them as silver is purified by fire." – Zechariah 13:9 NIV*

*"Delight yourself in the Lord, take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart." – Psalm 37:4*

*"Why be like unbelievers who worry about everything? Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs." – Matthew 6:32-33*

*"No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who do what is right." – Psalm 84:11*

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"God left Hezekiah on his own for a while, to see what he would do; God wanted to test his heart." – 2 Chronicles 32:31 LT*

*"The Lord led you through the wilderness for forty years. Humbling and testing you to prove your character and to find out whether or not you would really obey his commands." – Deut. 8:2*

*"Give yourself completely to God, to be used in the hands of God for his good purposes." – Rom. 6:13*

4. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They're plans for good and not for evil, plans to give you a future and a hope." – Jeremiah 29:11*

*"Let us not get tired of doing what is right for at the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up." – Galatians 6:9*

### **How God answers prayer:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Do not be discouraged if the vision isn't fulfilled overnight. Surely it will happen. It will not be overdue a single day." – Habakkuk 2:3 AMP*

4. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Always stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere." – Ephesians 6:18*