

***In this final lesson, we will look at three examples of the power of passionate prayers. These examples demonstrate the divine design of desperation and how God responds to us in times of difficulty as we fervently cry out to Him.***

➤ **The Foundation of this Series**

*Psalms 65:2 (NKJV)*  
*O You who hear prayer,*  
*To You all flesh will come.*

- God's identity to us is wrapped up in the fact that \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

*Psalms 65:4 (NKJV)*  
*4 Blessed is the man You choose,*  
*And cause to approach You,*  
*That he may dwell in Your courts.*  
*We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house,*  
*Of Your holy temple.*

- Sometimes God allows us to get into \_\_\_\_\_ situations so that we will reach for Him in \_\_\_\_\_; He \_\_\_\_\_ us to approach Him.
- He has a \_\_\_\_\_ that He is trying to unfold in our lives; Prayer is the \_\_\_\_\_ that God has \_\_\_\_\_ that allows us to interact with Him as He works to accomplish His will in our lives.

➤ **The Power of Your Words in Prayer**

*Daniel 10:12 (NKJV)*  
*12 Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.*

- Your words \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

*James 5:16b (NKJV)*

*16b The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*

– Consider:

- Fervent prayers are \_\_\_\_\_ prayers.
- If it is possible to pray effective prayers, then it must also be possible to pray \_\_\_\_\_ prayers.
- We want to pray effective prayers – those prayers that bring about a divine response, that move God into \_\_\_\_\_.

➤ **Three Desperate (Fervent and Effective) Prayers**

1. A Barren Womb (1 Samuel 1:1-17)

*1 Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim Zophim, of the mountains of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite.*

*2 And he had two wives: the name of one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.*

- The presentation of a problem: Hannah is \_\_\_\_\_; she is childless.

*3 This man went up from his city yearly to worship and sacrifice to the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. Also the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the Lord, were there.*

*4 And whenever the time came for Elkanah to make an offering, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters.*

*5 But to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, although the LORD had closed her womb.*

- Hannah's condition was not an \_\_\_\_\_ for "the LORD had closed her womb."

*6 And her rival also provoked her severely, to make her miserable, because the LORD had closed her womb.*

*7 So it was, year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, that she provoked her; therefore she wept and did not eat.*

*8 Then Elkanah her husband said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? And why is your heart grieved? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"*

- God will put you in situations where nothing \_\_\_\_\_ you.
- Though Hannah was the recipient of a double portion of blessing, her heart was broken and miserable.
- No matter what was given to her in gifts and possessions, nothing but a child would satisfy Hannah's barren womb.

*Proverbs 30:15b-16 (NKJV)*

*15b There are three things that are never satisfied,*

*Four never say, "Enough!":*

*16 The grave,*

*The barren womb,*

*The earth that is not satisfied with water—*

*And the fire never says, "Enough!"*

- Question: Are we satisfied with where we're at as a church?
- Can we feel the emptiness of the womb of the church and cry out to God for \_\_\_\_\_ to be birthed?

*9 So Hannah arose after they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the tabernacle of the LORD.*

*10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the LORD and wept in anguish.*

*12 And it happened, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli watched her mouth.*

*13 Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli thought she was drunk.*

*14 So Eli said to her, "How long will you be drunk? Put your wine away from you!"*

*15 But Hannah answered and said, "No, my lord, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor intoxicating drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD."*

- Hannah prayed such an intense prayer that Eli the priest mistook her actions for that of a \_\_\_\_\_ woman.

- When you are desperate, you lose your pride; you stop caring what others think of you and will do \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ to get your answer from God.
- The end of the story: God visited Hannah and gave her a son named Samuel who became a great prophet before the Lord.
- Hannah would have gone to her grave with an \_\_\_\_\_ womb except that she prayed a \_\_\_\_\_ prayer that moved God into action.

2. A Grieved Widow (Luke 18:1-8)

*1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,*

- The purpose of this parable is to \_\_\_\_\_ you to never give up in prayer.

*2 Saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man.*

- This judge stands in stark contrast to a \_\_\_\_\_ God who cares about you.

*3 Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.'*

*4 And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man,*

*5 Yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.'"*

- She refused to \_\_\_\_\_, even when her request was being ignored.
- The judge was moved into action, not out of love or concern, but simply because he was tired of being bothered by this woman.

*6 Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said.*

*7 And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?"*

- Sometimes you find yourself in the same situation as this widow – coming before God \_\_\_\_\_ with the exact same need.
- God doesn't get tired of you, nor does he grow \_\_\_\_\_ hearing your prayer.
- Sometimes the \_\_\_\_\_ is long (*He bears long...*), but don't lose heart, don't give up, don't let go of your miracle.

*8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"*

- "Find faith" – When Jesus comes for His church, will He find people with the same " \_\_\_\_\_ " faith as this woman?

*Matthew 7:7 (NKJV)*

*7 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.*

- What do you do when it seems like God is \_\_\_\_\_ you?
- You keep \_\_\_\_\_, you keep \_\_\_\_\_, and you keep \_\_\_\_\_.
- Because sooner or later, you'll knock one last time and the door to your \_\_\_\_\_ will open wide.

### 3. A Determined Blind Man (Luke 18:35-43)

*35 Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging.*

*36 And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant.*

- He is at a \_\_\_\_\_ because he must rely on others to tell him what is happening.

*37 So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.*

- When Jesus walks by, \_\_\_\_\_ can happen!

*38 And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"*

- This blind man refused to let this \_\_\_\_\_ pass by him.

*39 Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"*

- Who tried to quiet Bartimaeus? Those who were \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.
- Sometimes other people in the church won't \_\_\_\_\_ your desperate prayers, but God is listening to the cry of your heart.

*40 So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him,*

*41 Saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?"*

*He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight."*

*42 Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well."*

*43 And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.*

- Your answer will come when you \_\_\_\_\_ to be denied.

*James 5:16*

*The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*