

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further ***International Bible Lessons***

Luke 18:1-9

Sunday, July 15, 2018

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. What is a difference between God the Father and an unjust judge?

God the Father is loving, just, merciful and cares for all His children. God will answer their prayers. An unjust judge will not show mercy unless it will be in his selfish, personal interests, for he does not care for what God or others think.

2. What does a person do to himself who knows the truth and who knows what is right, but then refuses to conform his thoughts to the truth and refuses to do what he knows is right?

He hardens his heart and his conscience, and then he loses his powers to think right and becomes worse in his thoughts and behavior.

3. Describe some differences between self-centeredness and Christ-centeredness.

Self-centeredness looks within oneself to think and do what will be most pleasing and satisfying to oneself. Self-centeredness does not fear God or consider others but wants to use God and others to meet their own selfish desires. Christ-centeredness looks to Jesus Christ, to His teachings and to His commands as their guide for life because they love Christ supremely and want to bring delight to Jesus Christ by their thoughts and behaviors.

4. Give one or two reasons why our answers to our prayers might be delayed.

God wants us to change our attitudes and thoughts about what we are praying about. We need to keep praying because a spiritual enemy may be interfering with God's answer (see the Book of Daniel). God needs to answer our prayers when He can do what is best for all concerned.

5. When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?

Among praying Christians, yes.