

# JESUS Talks

Ideas worth spreading

## JESUS TALKS Part 8: Striking Arrows Pastor Dave Patterson

### USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

### Verses inspired by the Olympics

- **[Philippians 3:13]**

*I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize!*

- **[1 Corinthians 9:25]**

*Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*

- **[Colossians 2:18]**

*“Do not let anyone disqualify you from the prize”*

• **[Proverbs 24:16]**

*The godly may trip seven times, but they will get up again.*

• **[Hebrews 12:1]**

*“And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus”*

• **[2 Timothy 4:7]**

*“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. Now the prize awaits me....”*

**A parable of Jesus**

**[Luke 18:1 (amp)]**

*Now Jesus was telling the disciples a parable to make the point that they should always pray and never give up and lose heart,*

*“God chose, from the time of the creation, to work on earth through humans, not independently from them”*

E.M. Bounds

**[Luke 11:5-9]**

*Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: “Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, 6 ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ 7 And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’ 8 But I tell you this—though he won’t do it for friendship’s sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence. 9 “And so I tell you, keep on*

*asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you.*

**[Luke 11:10 (amp)]**

*For everyone who keeps on asking [persistently], receives; and he who keeps on seeking [persistently], finds; and to him who keeps on knocking [persistently], the door will be opened.*

**[1 Peter 1:7]**

*“These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold...”*

**The Gold:** 8 results of waiting:

1. Our desires are being refined by fire during the wait
2. Our prayer life and intimacy with the Lord is deepened
3. Our Word life is strengthened as we search for answers
4. Our requests often change as we learn how to pray “His will”
5. Humility grows in our hearts and positions us for promotion
6. We mature and reach a place where we “lack nothing” (James 1:4)
7. Spiritual resistance is being weakened (Daniel 10:12-13)
8. We get to know God like never before!

**[Hebrews 10:36]**

*Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God’s will. Then you will receive all that he has promised*

**[2 Kings 13:17]**

*“The Lord’s arrow of victory, the arrow of victory over Aram (Syria); for you will completely conquer the Syrians”*

“Our words and actions impact the spiritual or heavenly realm, which in turn impacts the natural realm”

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. Have you ever spent a season of life training persistently for an event that required an intense pursuit?**
- 2. Have you ever lost heart? How can we maintain a consistent pursuit after God and His will for our lives during the seasons where it seems all is lost?**
- 3. What is the difference between having the "keys" to His promises and "operating with the keys" in the promises?**
- 4. What does "shameless persistence" look like in our prayer life? On a scale from 1-10 (1 being none existent 10 being shameless fool) where does your prayer life land? How can you move it one step higher?**
- 5. During the "wait" of unanswered prayer, what is God wanting to produce in us?**
- 6. What will you miss out on if you quite praying? Better question, what will God accomplish through your persistent pursuit of His purpose in your life?**
- 7. Pray for each other that God will produce in us whatever is needed while we persistently pray. Ask God to ignite a dream or rekindle the dream He has birthed in our hearts.**