

Discussion Guide: August 30th, 2026

Message: Persistent Prayer

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This story is straight from the lips of Jesus: Luke 18:1-8

One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. 2 "There was a judge in a certain city," he said, "who neither feared God nor cared about people. 3 A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, 'Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.' 4 The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, 'I don't fear God or care about people, 5 but this woman is driving me crazy. I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!' " 6 Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. 7 Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth who have faith?"

Takeaway: If a dishonest judge finally responds to a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to His own children.

Message Outline:

- 1) What does it mean to always pray?
- 2) Why do some of our prayers seem to go unheard?
- 3) Will Christ find faith on the earth when He returns?

Discussion Questions

- What was Jesus' purpose in telling His disciples this parable? (18:1)
- How did Jesus describe the judge in the story? (18:2)
- Why was the woman in the story especially helpless? (18:3)
- What did the woman need from the judge? (18:3)
- Why did the judge finally give in to the woman's request? (18:4–5)
- How will God's actions differ from those of the unjust judge? (18:7)
- What can Christians expect from God? (18:7)
- What promise does this parable offer to Christians? (18:8)
- To what kind of faith did Jesus refer at the end of this passage? (18:8)
- What have you prayed for again and again? How might this passage relate to that?
- Share any other insights you have gleaned from this story of Jesus?

Time of Prayer:

Enable me to keep believing that you hear and will answer every prayer of mine for my own good and for your glory. Amen