

## *The Message Notes*

**Message:** *Persistent Prayer – Don't Give Up!*

**Messenger:** Pastor Keith (PK)

**Text:** Luke 18:1-7 (ESV)

**Date:** March 13, 2022



**Luke 18:1.** And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. **2.** He said, “In a certain city there as a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. **3.** And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’ **4.** For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, ‘Though I neither fear God nor respect man, **5.** yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming” **6.** And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says. **7.** And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them?” **8.** I tell you; he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

**Objective:** We want to talk about the third pillar of the church -- **prayer**. Prayer **binds** our Apostles’ doctrine and fellowship with staying in **commune** with God and recognizing His presence.

### **Talk:**

“**Primary** purpose of prayer is to **commune** with God, so we can **strengthen** our relationship with Him.”

“**Prayer** allows us to have **direct communication** with God to express the sentiments of our thoughts, emotions, desires, opinions, in contrast to **His will** for our lives.” Example: Matthew 26:38

### **Spiritual Warfare:**

- a) **Position of Prayer:** We are seated with Christ/authority, Ephesians 2:6
- b) **Satan and Prayer:** Satan not only lives in the celestial realm, but he and his cohorts influence the earthly realm through **deception**, **blindness** and taken sinners **captive** by their sins, I John 5:19, Ephesians 2:2
- c) **Weapons of Warfare:** We must **fight the demonic realm** by using our weapons of warfare: 1) salvation – helmet, 2) sword – word of God/Scriptural authority, 3) praying in the Spirit with persistence, Ephesians 6:17-18, Acts 19:15-16

## Points of the text:

**Luke 18:1.** And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

- **Parable** – simple story that teaches a **moral principle**
- **Principle** – ought to **always** pray and not lose heart
- **Practice** – be **persistent** in prayer

## Why does God delay prayers, verses 2-8?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – legality of the prayer

**Mark 11:25.** But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.” (NLT)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ – battle for the soul

**Luke 22:31.** “Simon, Simon Satan has **asked to sift each of you like wheat**. **32.** But I have **pleaded in prayer** for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So, when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers.” (NLT)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ – faith and endurance

**v7.** And will not God give **justice** to his **elect**, who cry to him day and night? Will he **delay long** over them?” **v8.** I tell you; he will give **justice** to them **speedily**. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he **find faith** on the earth?

**James 1:2.** Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. **3.** For you know that when your faith is tested, your **endurance** has a chance to grow. **4.** So let it grow, for when your **endurance** is **fully developed**, you will be **perfect** and **complete**, **needing nothing**.

**Takeaway:** Name three of your takeaways from this teaching:

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

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

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