

# Persistent Prayer

Luke 18:1-8

ans persist in prayer and persevere in faithful obedience when we trust Jesus' work for us  
Every person can persist in prayer and persevere in faithful obedience by three exhortations

ever been a time when you gave up on praying for something? Why? I am sure there have been times when you gave up on praying for something. We give up because we don't think it will happen, we give up because we don't think it is worth the effort.

look at Persistent Prayer. We're going to consider why we pray. But first, let's look at statistics on how Americans pray.

**solo: How Americans Pray", Barna Research Group [All stats cited from article.]**  
The Barna Group concluded that prayer is the most common faith practice among Americans. 75% of Americans who have prayed in the last three months say they most often choose to pray alone. Although they likely don't all mean the same thing by that, 50% pray to Jesus and 25% pray to the Holy Spirit.

ular! And this is a good thing, at first. **But how do you know your prayers matter? How do you know if you should keep praying or not?** This is what we will consider in this passage.

**3**  
*a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, "In that city neither feared God nor respected man. <sup>3</sup>And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him with justice against my adversary.' <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself 'I will not vex this importunate widow, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not come to me in vain.' <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God give justice to his elect who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will give justice to them in the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"*

**Christians persist in prayer and persevere in faithful obedience when we trust Jesus' work for us and in us.**

**is by introducing a Judge in a certain city.** This judge neither feared God nor respected man. (4) This tells us that he was an unqualified judge. He would not hold the position. When there is no respect for God, there is no accurate standard before God and judgment needs a plumb line of evaluation. When there is no respect for man, there is no help of helpful compassion. Judges are ordained by God. The one who does not recognize himself as unfit to adjudicate.

adding to try to go viral on social media. All she demanded was justice, that which is right. In the end, she would not quit, she would not shut up, she just kept coming and demanding.

He refused her. With no fear of God or respect for people it was no sweat off his back. And, one could be just because his motives in all rulings were self-centered. And it was his secret. He finally relent. She bothered him, the Judge, with her demand for justice. HOW IRONIC! He changed his mind and grant her justice. [Persistence brought justice from an unjust judge.](#)

**is the parable.** God is righteous and holy, loving and compassionate, nothing like the judge. [He gives justice speedily to His people.](#)

[After three Exhortations to motivate our persistent prayer and perseverance](#)

**main persistent in prayer because...**

[His children would pray with persistence.](#)

**to pray with persistence, Christian, and not lose heart.** He tells a parable so that it is to persist in prayerfulness. [What Jesus works to effect in our life provides the aim for which we](#)

**will always begins by knowing God's will for your life.** We can persist in prayer for or against us. Prayer is our primary way to commune with God. We must begin with this understanding of God's will. [The only way to commune consistently with God is to pray persistently according to His Will for every Christ-follower.](#)<sup>1Thes5:17</sup>

**God's will, we can understand the aim, purpose and direction for all of God's work.** We can persist because it is God's will. And, we can recognize that Jesus is working to enact His will to effect that will upon our lives. We need not ask of God IF this is what He wants if He has commanded, instructed, and promised it for us.

Here today to understand life in God's Kingdom. It is God's will to have an intimate relationship with you, not a distanced, disconnected, disjointed, dysfunctional argument with you. [Jesus is working so you can live in God's will through constant communion.](#)

It is God's will to persist in prayer. But knowing God's will is not enough for our obedience.

**main persistent in prayer because...**

[He will faithfully and mercifully persistently pursue us for his glory.](#)

**is cry for justice against her adversary.** This is not a petty disagreement of opinion. Justice in you is the image of God crying out from within you. God's Law is written on the heart for divine justice every time we break it.<sup>Romans4:15</sup> That voice within you crying for justice has a crushing weight of demand that shows you every failure and a burning condemnation that says, **We were created as the highest display of God's glory. When any other glory reflects a false and unpurposed order from it's created design.** And the persistent widow cries out.

**And the words of the unrighteous judge,** *'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, <sup>5y</sup> hearing me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming*

**And the judge's words come with no comfort, but they are revealing as they echo from our hearts** to satisfy his own selfish comfort. The unrighteous judge will never satisfy the demand for justice. The widow's words discomfort our selfishness, inconvenience our self-centeredness, and the persistent demand for justice in your heart will not be silenced because our unrighteousness is crying out for justice. **Two voices echo within the human heart. The human heart cries out, "all is not as it should be because we cannot help ourselves, but we will do anything to silence it."**

**WE are NOT the persistent widow.** WE are the self-consumed, self-centered unrighteous person who wants to satisfy the wants, desires, comforts and control of my personal kingdom. Jesus lovingly told us that we are not sovereign at all, it's not sufficient nor ultimately satisfying. Every ruling we make to serve ourself, either in hardening pride from success or humiliating shame and condemnation from failure, crushing weight of failure on our heart, and we can't control the pressure from success but we are in **two kingdoms war for righteousness in the soul.**

**And the war of the heavenlies that rages for the soul of every person.** God's image and sin fights to maintain what it cannot control by promising what it cannot provide on earth. **And the promise of life from justice will never be an experienced reality without trusting in the only one who can save us: Jesus Christ, and who by faith can become the atonement for your sin.**<sup>Romans6:3-4,10-11</sup>

**And the adversary perpetrating injustice in the world!**<sup>2</sup> And he has a mole on the inside, our sinful nature and great accuser that brings crushing devastation and burning condemnation upon you down, as the unrighteous judge's word suppose. Satan is our adversary who seeks to destroy us.<sup>1Peter5:8;John10:10a</sup>

**And the Son Jesus as our advocate.** He came to save the world by taking on flesh. Then he died for us, was beaten bruised and crushed, so he could take up his life again to dwell with God. Jesus is given all authority to commission His followers to proclaim life with God in His name. **And the day to Judge the living and the dead.**<sup>John12:47;Phil2:5-11; Isaiah 53:4-6;John 10:17-18;Acts1:7;Matt 28:18-</sup>

oved people. He has a unique vantage point on our requests. He sees them with perfect  
en we persist in prayer, we trust in God's coming-near-accomplishing work through Jesus

each God in prayer is determined by what we believe about Him. When we forget C  
will for us, His work in us and His way about answering our requests. When we remem  
loves us, we will persist in prayer confident that He is with us and will answer us becaus  
all for us in Jesus.

bothered when you come to Him! He stands ready to welcome you every time. All of t  
spends to receive eternal life in Jesus. Luke15:10

overwhelmed, inconvenienced, put off or bothered by your requests! He commanc  
quests to Him, because He is relentless to answer us and reveal Himself is greater way  
to God, He answers with His surpassing and satisfying peace. Phil4:6-7

as with justice and righteousness. The practice of prayer is not the point. The one to  
heart and stop praying when we get deceived to believe the wrong things about God. S  
that Jesus is like the unrighteousness judge. Christians can persist in prayer because  
righteousness, justice and glory.

main persistent in prayer because...

fills us to remain faithful for his glory until He returns.

with a probing question for all those listening, "when He returns, will He find any faith on  
ence in prayer is NOT faithfulness to religious ritual, but strength for faithful living.

ing King who will return to bring righteousness and justice to all things. He will rig  
dry every tear, and turn every sorrow into joy. Nothing fuels the heat of our prayers like  
n we remember that the one who teaches us to persist in prayer is our eternal hope, it e  
ge. The Christian's persistence in prayer fueled by hope in our returning King empower  
ithful obedience.

ver noticed how when your prayer life weakens, your strength to obey wanes with it? Th  
at sidetracked from godly living is to cease seeking God in persistent prayer. Nothing en  
odly living like persisting in prayerful communion with God. Prayer serves as the wind th  
rove us against the current of the world on the course of holy living.

s with all of life because ~you live by the way you pray~: As your prayer life goes,  
or weeks without food, days without water, but you've only got seconds without air. Jesu  
ring because He wants you to persevere in your living. Your living will never out-do your  
oly as strong as their prayer life, never more and never less. The Christian life is never r

eristic of our lives.”<sup>3</sup> Jesus tells you not to lose heart but stay persistent in your prayers in faithful obedience that He is your sustaining strength. Prayer is our most regular conversation that deepens communion with God. When we pray we can be sure of this, G 3; James 5:16b; Phil 2:12b-13 **Christians persist in prayer by faith because we trust that the perfect will come to full completion as we walk by obedience.**

At the eloquence of your words, it's not about the passion or intensity of your emotion, but the holy God. **You can persist in prayer because Jesus is always faithful.**

He demands for justice by becoming our Justifier. He destroys our Adversary by becoming our Advocate by adjudicating holy justice for our life through divine love in giving his own life. **Jesus triumphs over the criminal proceeding into the Judge's chamber that seals our adoption.** And, He is working in us that He has placed upon us to transform us into His redeemed image.

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