

“Keep Praying, Don’t Stop”

Luke 18:1-8

Pastor John Miller

I. Introduction

A. Jesus talked about how essential prayer is for His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane.

II. The Purpose of the Parable (Luke 18:1)

A. The key (v. 1) “Always pray and don’t lose heart”

1. “Faint” is “to lose heart” or “give up”
2. We all face times of temptation to give up
3. Discouragement is one of Satan’s strategies to destroy your walk with God
4. We don’t stop praying or “faint.” Why?
 - a) My problems seem so big (little faith)
 - b) My flesh is so weak (looking to self)
 - c) The answer to my prayer is denied, delayed, or different (Romans 8:28)
 - 1) Illustration- “Be not weary doing good” (Galatians 6:9)

III. The People of the Parable (Luke 18:2-5)

A. There are only two people: the unjust judge and the widow.

IV. The Practice of the Parable (Luke 18:6-8)

A. It’s a parable of contrast, not comparison

1. God is not an unjust judge
 - a) “Every good and perfect gift is from above” (James 1:17)
2. God’s character is good (He is our Father)
3. God’s ways are just (look at the cross)
 - a) (Romans 8:32)
4. God’s timing is perfect (vv. 7-8)
 - a) Don’t faint, keep on praying

B. Are you like the persistent widow?

1. Yes! Like her, we have an adversary (v. 3)
2. No! We are God’s elect (v. 7)
3. She came to a court of law, but we, as the Father’s chosen children, come to a throne of grace
4. Don’t lose heart, keep praying
 - a) What a friend we have in Jesus!
 - b) “Don’t worry” (Philippians 4:6-7)