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"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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How's Your Prayer Life?

Luke 18:1-8

Series: (Re)Discovering the Power of Persistent Prayer

Central Passage

Luke 18:1–8 (NIV) — **1** Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. **2** He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. **3** And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' **4** "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, **5** yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!' " **6** And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. **7** And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? **8** I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Three Keys to Developing Your Prayer Life

❖ Praise

(Four Doxologies from Revelation)

Revelation 1:6 (NIV) — **6** and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Revelation 4:11 (NIV) — **11** "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Revelation 5:13 (NIV) — **13** Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

Revelation 7:12 (NIV) — **12** ... "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

❖ Petition

- Persist
- Persevere

Ephesians 6:18 (NIV) — **18** And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. (See also, Luke 2:36-37)

1 John 5:14–15 (NIV) — **14** This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. **15** And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

❖ Listen

1 Kings 19:11–13 (NIV) — **11** The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. **12** After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. **And after the fire came a gentle whisper.** **13** When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"