Reflecting on "Prayer and the Persistent Widow" Luke 18:1-8 | March 17, 2024

Di	Discussion Questions						
1)	Read Luke 18:1. According to this verse what two lessons is Jesus trying to teach his disciples in this parable? Why might we be tempted to "lose heart" in prayer?						
2)	Read Luke 18:1-8. What clues does Jesus provide to indicate that God is not like the judge in this parable? How is God different from this judge?						
3)	Read Luke 18:7. What does God think about us asking Him for the same things over and over again? Does He ever get tired of our asking?*						
4)	Read Luke 18:8. Jesus says that God gives justice "speedily" to those who "cry to Him day and night." How should we reconcile this promise with the seemingly unanswered prayers of fervent Christians (e.g., a terminally ill person who prays for healing)?						

5)	Read Luke 18:7-8. What are some ways that humans pursue justice in the world? According to Jesus, what is the surest way to achieve justice? [†]
6)	Read James 4:2-3 and Psalm 37:3-5. The parable of the widow teaches us to pray with persistence. What do these other verses teach us about prayer?
7)	Read Luke 18:3-8. What was the cause for the widow's persistence in this parable? Explain how we have even more reason than she for being persistent in our prayers to God.
8)	Prayer: This passage ends with a powerful truth (i.e., the Son of Man is coming again) and a poignant question: "Will He find faith on earth?" Close your Life Group praying for faith like that of the persistent widow.
* T	his question is adapted from Listen Up: 10-Minute Family Devotions on the Parables by Marty Machowski
	is question is based on commentary from Thabiti Anyabwile in <i>Exalting Jesus in Luke</i> , which is part of the rist-Centered Exposition series