

Story Time With Jesus
Endeavor to Persevere
Discover Church
Mark Phillips
August 6, 2023

A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.

- **Mashal**

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.” Matthew 13:44

- **Epigram**

“You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?” Matthew 23:33

- **Hyperbole**

“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?” Matthew 7:3

- **Arguments**

“So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.” John 2:15

- **Questions and answers** – What do you say?

“On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” Luke 10:25-26

“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’ “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’” And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. 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? 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?” Luke 18:1-8

Parable of the Persistent Widow

- The **Context**
- The **Style**
- **Cultural** Context

“a fortiori” argument

Truths to Learn about Persistent Prayer

- **Maintains** communication with God
- Keeps our requests in **perspective**
- Makes us **consider** what we **really want** God to do
- Helps us **recognize** the answer when it comes
- **Guides** us to live by **faith**

“However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?” Luke 1:8

- What is faith?

*“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”
Hebrews 11:1*

- Faith gets tested

*“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”
2 Corinthians 10:4-5*

- How do we build faith

“Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.” Romans 10:17

- Faith helps us overcome Tests and Trials

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” John 10:10

- We hear God by the Holy Spirit

“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” Hebrews 4:16

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Truths to Learn about Persistent Prayer

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- Keeps our requests in _____
- Makes us _____ what we _____ God to do
- Helps us _____ the answer when it comes
- _____ us to live by _____

What is faith?

*Scripture: Luke 18:1-8; Hebrews 11:1; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5; Romans 10:17; John 10:10;
Hebrews 4:16*