

**Persistent in Prayer**  
**The Assembly**  
**Beck Payne-Associate Pastor**  
**January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Scripture: Luke 18:1-8 (ESV)**

*And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. <sup>3</sup>And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" <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 speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"*

**Four Lessons We can Learn about being Persistent in Prayer**

**1. We should ALWAYS pray!**

**I. Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)**

*<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

Prayer for the believer is a lifestyle, not a last resort!

Jesus said in the gospels, "When you pray", not "if you pray", assuming that prayer for a believer is a lifestyle, not a last resort.

We must realize:

- Prayer is a privilege.
- Prayer is a priority.
- Prayer is for a purpose.
- Prayer is powerful!

## 2. We **shouldn't** lose heart

*Why do we lose heart at times?*

- **Opposition**
- **Timeframe**

## 3. We can **trust** God **completely!**

**Scriptures:**

### **Deuteronomy 10:18**

*<sup>18</sup> He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing.*

### **24:17-21**

*“You shall not pervert the justice due to the sojourner or to the fatherless, or take a widow's garment in pledge, <sup>18</sup> but you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this.*

*<sup>19</sup> “When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. <sup>20</sup> When you beat your olive trees, you shall not go over them again. It shall be for the*

sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow. <sup>21</sup> When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you shall not strip it afterward. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow.

### **James 1:27**

<sup>27</sup> Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

## **4. We have certain rights at citizens of the Kingdom of God!**

### **Scripture: Philippians 3:20-21 (ESV)**

<sup>20</sup> But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. <sup>21</sup> He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

### **Scripture: Ephesians 2:19 (ESV)**

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

### **Scripture: I. John 5:14 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup> And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

### **Scripture: John 14:14 (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup> If you ask me<sup>[a]</sup> anything in my name, I will do it.

5. We should be **persistent** in prayer.

Scripture: **Matthew 7:7-8** (ESV)

*“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.*

**P.U.S.H.**

Scripture: **Luke 18:8**

*...“I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”*