

Don't Give Up

January 9, 2022

Scriptures: Luke 18:1-8

Bottom Line: Don't give up IN prayer, don't give up ON prayer

Luke 18:1-8

- Jesus tells His disciples a parable about prayer, and encourages them to never give up in prayer
- Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father, praying for us. The Holy Spirit prays for us as well
- This shows us the significance of prayer for us

The Importance of Prayer

- Prayer is a way we partner with God. God moves through our prayers
- There are incredible things that God is waiting to do in our lives, in our families, in our community, and He's just waiting for us to pray for them
- Prayer is our divine invitation to see God's Kingdom released around us

Don't Give Up In/On Prayer

- Prayer isn't a one-and-done kind of thing. It requires a persistent pressing of our hearts. So stay in prayer, don't give up
- Some of us may have given up on prayer, believing that God will do what He will do, regardless of what we say. But don't give up on prayer. It's the widow's persistence that

2 Chronicles 7:14

"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land."

LISTENING

Have someone in your group share something about their week. They could answer one or more of the following questions:

- What was a big challenge or problem you faced this week? How did you handle it?
- Where did you experience God this week? Or where do you wish you had experienced God this week?
- Based on your life experience this week, what do you think God is trying to teach you right now? What is He trying to build in you?

After the person shares, the group can respond. Make sure you let them know you heard them: tell them what you heard, offer wise advice where it's asked for, share from your own experience as well.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. What stories of answered prayer have you experienced?
3. How have you responded when your prayers haven't been answered?
4. Has there been a time when you've felt like giving up with God or giving up on prayer?