#### Session 2 | Parable Of The Persistent Widow Luke 18:1-8

# "Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved." Psalm 55:22 / ESV

## Opening Discussion: CROSSROADS CHURCH STATEN ISLAND Small Group Ministry

- How does remaining persistent in prayer help you with adversity?
- 2. What are the dangers of not expressing your concerns to God?

**Main Point:** Jesus teaches the importance of persistence in prayer regarding personal situations and His promised return.

#### **Main Characters:**

**Unjust Judge:** A man with judicial responsibilities who functioned as the presiding judge in a civil court. (not a religious court).

**Widow:** A woman, who was all alone, had apparently been defrauded by someone so badly that she was on the verge of destitution.

**God:** Our Heavenly Father differs greatly from the unjust judge in this parable; He is honorable, loving, and kind.

#### 1 Get your inspiration from Scripture

Luke 18:1 / CSB, "Now he told them a parable on the need for them to pray always and not give up."

### 2 Consider the dangers of lacking reverence for God and respect for others.

Luke 18:2 / NLT, ""There was a judge in a certain city," he said, "who neither feared God nor cared about people."

#### 3 Overcome resistance with persistence

Luke 18:3-5 / NLT, "A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, 'Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.' 4 The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, 'I don't fear God or care about people, 5 but this woman is driving me crazy... I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!'"

Second Corinthians 4:8-9 / NLT, "We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. 9 We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed."

#### 4 God wants me to respond and be ready with faith

Luke 18:6-8 / NLT, "Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. 7 Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth who have faith?"

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Read Psalm 55:22, (Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will
never permit the righteous to be moved) What does this verse mean to you?

2. How can this parable help you with adversity and difficulties?

**Praise and Prayer Requests:**