

# ROOTED AND STEADFAST

Contributed by Bill Hawks

## Persistent Prayer and a Faithful God

BASED ON LUKE 18:1-8

“Now he told them a parable on the need for them to pray always and not give up.” — Luke 18:1 (CSB)

In Luke 18:1–8, Jesus tells the parable of the persistent widow to encourage believers to persevere in prayer. The story revolves around a widow who repeatedly seeks justice from an unjust judge. Though he neither fears God nor respects people, the judge eventually grants her request—not out of compassion, but because of her persistence. Jesus uses this story to contrast the character of the unjust judge with the goodness of God.

The parable opens with a clear purpose: “to pray always and not give up.” Prayer, in the life of a believer, is not optional—it is essential. Paul echoes this in 1 Thessalonians 5:17, “Pray constantly.” Persistent prayer isn’t about wearing God down; it’s about pressing into a relationship with a God who never grows weary of hearing from His children.

Jesus reassures us of God’s justice: “Will not God grant justice to his elect who cry out to him day and night?” (v. 7). Our God is not distant or indifferent. He is attentive, loving, and righteous. Unlike the unjust judge, He acts out of compassion and covenant faithfulness. Isaiah 30:18 reminds us, “The Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him.”

Yet Jesus ends with a probing question: “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” (v. 8). Persistent prayer is not just about making requests; it’s about enduring faith. Will we keep trusting when answers are delayed? Will we keep praying when situations seem hopeless? True faith clings to God even in silence, knowing He is working behind the scenes.

This parable invites us to evaluate the depth of our faith and the perseverance of our prayer life. Do we trust that God hears us? Are we willing to keep praying, not because we want to manipulate outcomes, but because we trust the character of the One we’re praying to?

### Reflection Questions:

1. What situation in your life requires persistent prayer right now?
2. How does your view of God impact your confidence in prayer?
3. What does it look like to remain faithful while waiting?

### Prayer:

Father, thank You that You are not like the unjust judge, but a good and loving Father who hears every cry. Teach me to pray with perseverance and to trust Your timing and justice. Strengthen my faith as I wait, and help me never to give up. Amen.

## Week Thirty-Two Passages

August 4

LUKE 15  
PSALM 124-127  
PROVERBS 26

August 5

LUKE 16  
PSALMS 128-129  
PROVERBS 27

August 6

LUKE 17  
PSALMS 130-132  
PROVERBS 28

August 7

LUKE 18  
PSALMS 133-135  
PROVERBS 29

August 8

LUKE 19  
PSALM 136  
PROVERBS 30

