



The Word @ Home

Pentecost 19
Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8

The Point

We should keep praying, confident that God hears us.

Key Verse

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.
– Luke 18:1

Scripture Summaries

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Trust and Pray Always

Jesus tells his disciples a parable in which a widow (a vulnerable member of the community) needs justice against an opponent. She continually pesters the irreligious and uncaring judge. From his own annoyance, rather than from a sense of right or wrong, he gives the widow justice. This parable connects this unjust judge with God, as if to say, “if even this bad person does good, then much more so will our righteous God.” Jesus promises that God will give justice to those who pray and do not give up.

First Reading Summary: Genesis 32:22-31

Jacob wrestles at night with a mysterious person who might have been God or a representative of God. After Jacob wrestles well and demands a blessing, the person changes his name to Israel.

Second Reading Summary: 2 Timothy 3:14–4:5

The writer urges the recipient to trust Scripture for instruction, reproof and correction, and training in righteousness so that we can be equipped for every good work.

Seasons & Festivals

Today is the 19th Sunday after Pentecost. Green is used to indicate our growth in faith, and this season after Pentecost is a time in which we focus on the teachings and ministry of Christ. It is a time for growth and learning following the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

Discussion Starters

- Do you picture God acting like this judge? Describe how you picture God’s personality.
- Share when it is the hardest to be patient.
- Talk about a time that you prayed and did not seem to receive an answer.

Prayer of the Week

God, we try to be patient and trusting, but sometimes it is hard. Help us to wait. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday

Read Luke 18:1-8 Jesus teaches about prayer.
Create a modern-day version of this story.

Monday

Read 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 Paul teaches about lawsuits.
Share tips for dealing with conflict.

Tuesday

Read James 5:7-12 Be patient in suffering.
Plant something to remind you to be patient.

Wednesday

Read Luke 22:39-46 Jesus prays on the Mount of Olives.
This story takes place right before Jesus was crucified. He was in anguish, but God sent an angel to comfort him. How has God comforted you during difficult times?

Thursday

Read Psalm 84:1-7 The writer praises God.
Read this psalm together as a prayer of praise.

Friday

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Paul reflects on his suffering.
Pray for people around the world who are persecuted because of their faith.

Saturday

Read Luke 1:46-55 Mary sings a song of praise.
Read Luke 1:26-45 leading into this passage. How would you have reacted to the angel's news if you were Mary?



Blessing for the Week

Share this blessing while tracing a cross on each person's forehead or hand with their permission:
God listens and hears you.