

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

Luke 18:1-8

For Starting

- What is the biggest way you have changed since you were a child? In what way are you still the same?
- In the Bible, God gave some people "new names." What would you want your new name to be? Why?
- What worship song or lyric has really helped you to pray?
- What word or phrase stands out when you read this passage?

For Reviewing

- Why did Jesus tell this parable to His disciples (v.1)?
- Describe the personality of the Judge in the parable (v.2).
- What did the Widow want from the Judge (v.3)?
- How did the Judge respond when he first met the Widow (v.4a)?
- Why did the Judge finally agree to help the Widow (v.4b-5)?
- Compare how the Judge grudgingly helped the Widow, and how God the Father willingly responds to His people (v.6-8)?

For Discussion

- A parable has been defined as "*An earthly story, with a heavenly meaning.*" What other words and phrases describe a parable?
- Is there a hero or a heroine in the story? Does the story "have a happy ending"? What difference do our answers make to the way we understand the meaning of the parable?
- What does the parable tell us about "faith"? What behaviour/s demonstrate "faith"?
- "*When praying people see no sign of the answer they long for, it easy for them to be discouraged. But they must pray on and not lose heart*". Do you agree/disagree? Why or why not?
How does this impact our personal and corporate praying today?
- What events can happen that cause us to stop praying believing prayers? How can we get out of these "downward spirals"?
- What is this parable saying to us personally?
- You could end by reading together Luke 18:1.

Luke 18:1-8 (NIVUK)

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

¹ Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ² He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. ³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

⁴ “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care about men, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually wear me out with her coming!’”

⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

