



## PERSISTENT PRAYER

How NOT to Persist in Prayer

Luke 18:1

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • June 24 & 25, 2017 • Luke, week 144 • Msg. 17-21 • Social Media: #PersistentPraying

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**Luke 18:1** And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. **2** He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. **3** And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' **4** For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, **5** yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.' " **6** And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. **7** And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? **8** I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (ESV)

# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.*

1. Read **Luke 4:1-13**. What do you learn from Satan's strategy of employing Scriptural quotations in his efforts to tempt Christ to sin? Describe a situation when a biblical text, out of context, had been enlisted in your mind as a rationalization to do or say something you later recognized was unbiblical.
2. Read **James 4:2-4**. How would you counsel Christians from this classic passage about unanswered prayer as to how they can be more discerning in evaluating the motives behind the things for which they persistently pray? What makes this kind of internal evaluation so difficult?
3. Read **2 Corinthians 12:7-9**. When in your Christian life have you been confident in light of a particular biblical principle to no longer persist in prayer regarding a specific concern?
4. Read **1 John 5:14-15**. What is the relationship between the will of God and the word of God? How has an increased knowledge of God's word changed or replaced some of the things for which you used to pray?
5. Read **Psalms 86:1-7**. What makes waiting on God so difficult for you? What is at stake when you become impatient in your praying?

## *This Week's Bible Reading Schedule*

### **June 25<sup>th</sup>**

*Job 4-6 & Ac.7:20-43*

### **June 26<sup>th</sup>**

*Job 7-9 & Ac.7:44-60*

### **June 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Job 10-12 & Ac.8:1-25*

### **June 28<sup>th</sup>**

*Job 13-15 & Ac.8:26-40*

### **June 29<sup>th</sup>**

*Job 16-18 & Ac.9:1-22*

### **June 30<sup>th</sup>**

*Job 19-20 & Ac.9:23-43*

### **July 1<sup>st</sup>**

*Job 21-22 & Ac.10:1-23*

### **July 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*Job 23-25 & Ac.10:24-48*

*The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).*

Msg. 05-58 – **Three Poignant Questions About Your Prayer Life**

Msg. 06-65 – **The Basic Attitudinal Approach to Prayer**

Msg. 10-18 – **Praying Through the Pain**

Msg. 99-43 – **What to Do When God Makes You Wait**

Msg. 11-29 – **Prayerfully Reliant**

Msg. 11-16 – **How to Pray and Making Sure We Do**

Msg. 15-15 – 15-20 – **Christ's School of Prayer** (a six-part series on prayer)

## *This Sermon's Social Media Hashtag*

**#PersistentPraying**

*Social Media Connections:*

**CompassChurch**



**FocalPointRadio**

**PastorMike**



*Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.*

Alexander, Eric J. **Prayer: A Biblical Perspective**. Banner of Truth, 2012.

Bounds, E. M. **The Complete Works of E. M. Bounds on Prayer**. Baker Books, 1990.

Bunyan, John. **Prayer**. Reprint. Waymark Books, 2011.

Hiebert, Edmond. **Working With God Through Intercessory Prayer**. BJU Press, 1991.

Ironside, H. A. **Praying in the Holy Spirit**. Loizeaux, 1946.

Pink, Arthur W. **Gleanings from Paul: Studies in the Prayers of the Apostle**. Reprint. Prisbrary Publishing, 2012.

Piper, John. **A Hunger for God: Desiring God through Fasting and Prayer**. Crossway Books, 1997.

Rosscup, James E. **An Exposition on Prayer in the Bible**. AMG Publishers, 2011.

Sproul, R. C. **Does Prayer Change Things?** Reformation Trust Publishing, 1998.

Spurgeon, C. H. **The Power of Prayer in a Believer's Life**. Emerald Books, 1996.

Ryle, J. C. **A Call to Prayer**. Audubon Press, 2002.

Thomas, W. H. Griffith. **Life Abiding and Abounding: Bible Studies in Prayer and Meditation**. Forgotten Books, 2012.

Torrey, R. A. **The Power of Prayer & the Prayer of Power**. Reprint. Zondervan, 1987.

Wiersbe, Warren W. **Prayer: Basic Training**. Tyndale, 1988.