

Don't Give Up > Luke 18:1-8

18:1 *Encouraged to pray.* Jesus knows our need to keep on in prayer. Because we are tempted to give up calling on our Lord, Jesus encourages us to keep at it and to not lose heart. He teaches this kind of persistence through a parable.

18:2-5 *Persisting in prayer.* In the parable, a wicked judge at first resists helping a widow to receive the justice she is owed. Over time, however, and because of the widow's persistence, the wicked judge gives in and grants her justice.

18:6-8 *God is answering prayer.* If even a wicked judge will grant justice in response to persistence, how much more our loving and good Father? He will give us all we need, exactly when we need it, according to his perfect plans. Our challenge? Will we keep praying – and therefore, keep trusting him – while we wait?

Background: In the chapter before, Jesus taught the disciples about the difficulties that would come from following him.

The Point: God's people must not give up faith – we must continue to trust him and call upon him, even as we wait.

Head: Prayer might appear as if it isn't "doing much," but the reality is far different. Believe that the Lord hears you.

Heart: Know that your Heavenly Father is good and loving. He is at work on your behalf in every way that is best.

Hands: What prayers have you been tempted to give up on? How will you continue in prayer in the week ahead?

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
