



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO

LUKE

A **parable** is a fictional story that reveals truth. It is an interactive narrative that invites you to participate in the scene and will transform you if you do.

Luke 18:1 (CSB)

1 Now Jesus told them a parable on the need for them to pray always and not give up.

- “Pray always.” (Lk. 18:1)
- “Pray constantly.” (1 Thess. 5:17)
- “Be persistent in prayer.” (Rom. 12:12)

- “Pray at all times (*proseuchomenoi en panti kairō*) in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession.” (Eph 6:18)

Every moment is APPOINTED by the
Lord—He has some PURPOSE in it—
so TALK to Him about it.

DO NOT GIVE UP

“out of” + “bad”

- To move away from and separate one's self from thoughts/emotions that are pernicious, worthless, or evil

- Don't grow weary!
- Don't faint!
- Don't become discouraged!
- Don't lose your enthusiasm!
- Don't let go of your motivation!
- Don't become afraid!
- Don't lose heart! Don't give up!

Luke 18:2-3 (CSB)

2 “There was a judge in a certain town who didn’t fear God or respect people.

3 And a widow in that town kept coming to him, saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’”



The Judge & the Widow

“Then he said to the judges, ‘Consider what you are doing, for you do not judge for a man, but for the LORD, who is with you in the matter of judgment. And now, may the terror of the LORD be on you.

Watch what you do, for there is no injustice or partiality or taking bribes with the LORD our God.’”

(2 Chronicles 19:6-7; CSB)

Luke 18:4-5 (CSB)

4 “For a while he was unwilling, but later he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or respect people, 5 yet because this widow keeps pestering me, I will give her justice, so that she doesn’t wear me out by her persistent coming.’”

The
Widow
&
the Judge



Luke 18:6-8 (CSB)

6 Then the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 Will not God grant justice to his elect who cry out to him day and night? Will he delay helping them? 8 I tell you that he will swiftly grant them justice. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Is our God in heaven like this
capricious and profane judge?

Luke 18:7 (CSB)

7 “Will not God grant justice to his elect who cry out to him day and night? Will he delay helping them?”

Luke 18:7-8 (CSB)

7 “Will not God grant justice to his elect who cry out to him day and night? ~~Will he delay helping them?~~ *Though he bears long with them [NKJV], I tell you he will swiftly grant them justice.*”

Patience (Gr. *makrothymia*)
- to put one's anger far away -

The parable was focused on the believer struggling to be patient with God. Why would Jesus shift the attention to God being patient with us?

“Too easily those who suffer injustice assume that the injustice they suffer automatically renders them righteous. Their opponents are evil. Because they oppression they endure, God will most certainly be angry *at their oppressors*, but never *at them!* Such is not the case. Only if God is able to ‘put his anger far away’ is he able to come and hear them.” (Bailey)

2 Peter 3:8-9 (CSB)

8 Dear friends, don't overlook this one fact: With the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. 9 The Lord does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:15 (CSB)

15 Regard the patience of our Lord as salvation...

2 Peter 3:10 (CSB)

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. On that day the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, the elements will burn and be dissolved, and the earth and the works on it will be disclosed.

2 Peter 3:13 (CSB)

13 ...Based on his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth where righteousness dwells.

2 Peter 3:11-12 (CSB)

11 Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, it is clear what sort of people you should be in holy conduct and godliness 12 as you wait for the day of God and hasten its coming.

WAIT for our kind and righteous Judge to step in with His newness and repair. Wait with PATIENCE, pushing your anger far away, just as God has done with you, showing us mercy in the face of Christ while we were yet His enemies.

Jesus presents the widow as our
MODEL to EMULATE in regard to
our confidence and persistence in
prayer.

Psalm 69:1-3 (CSB)

1 Save me, God, for the water has risen to my neck. 2 I have sunk in deep mud, and there is no footing. I have come into deep water, and a flood sweeps over me. 3 I am weary from my crying; my throat is parched. My eyes fail, looking for my God.

Psalm 69:4 (CSB)

4 Those who hate me without cause are more numerous than the hairs of my head. My deceitful enemies, who would destroy me, are powerful. Though I did not steal, I must repay.

VOICING ALOUD one's prayer to the Lord is like oxygen feeding the flame of your faith. It causes your confidence in God to grow and glow with intensity. Your prayer becomes a song!

Psalm 69:30-33 (CSB)

30 I will praise God's name with song and exalt him with thanksgiving. 31 That will please the LORD more than an ox, more than a bull with horns and hooves. 32 The humble will see it and rejoice. You who seek God, take heart! 33 For the LORD listens to the needy and does not despise his own who are prisoners.

Psalm 69:34-36 (CSB)

34 Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moves in them, 35 for God will save Zion and build up the cities of Judah. They will live there and possess it. 36 The descendants of his servants will inherit it, and those who love his name will live in it.

If fervent, persistent prayer can
hasten the coming day of God's
justice, can our faithless
PRAYERLESSNESS also slow and
gum up God's work in the world?

Luke 18:8 (CSB)

8 “I tell you that he will swiftly grant them justice. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

“Don’t throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you need endurance, so that after you have done God’s will, you may receive what was promised. For yet in a very little while, the Coming One will come and not delay. But my righteous one will live by faith; and if he draws back, I have no pleasure in him.”

(Hebrews 10:35–38; CSB)

“But we are not those who draw back
and are destroyed, but those who
have faith and are saved.”
(Hebrews 10:39; CSB)

Until God gives a clear indication as
what He is up to, it is our task as
Christ's followers, who live by faith,
to JUST KEEP PRAYING.



Just keep praying!