

## Always Pray - Never Lose Heart

April 26, 2018

Luke 18:1-8 ESV

- 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?"

Hebrews 10:35-39 ESV

- 35 Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.
- 36 For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.
- 37 For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay;
- 38 but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him."
- 39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

## 5 Reasons to Never Give Up in Prayer

1. God is working even when we see no natural indications. God's Word is our vision.

2 Kings 6:15-17 ESV

- 15 When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"
- 16 He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."
- 17 Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

2 Corinthians 5:7 ESV

- 7 for we walk (*peripateō* - to regulate one's life, to conduct one's self) by faith, not by sight.

**2 Corinthians 4:18** ESV

18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

**Hebrews 11:1** ESV

1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

**Romans 8:25** ESV

25 ...if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

**Romans 4:18-22** ESV

18 In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be."

19 He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

20 No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,

21 fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

22 That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness."

*If disappointment and discouragement has replaced your hope, joy, anticipation and expectancy, your faith in the unseen needs to be rekindled by the Word and Spirit of God.*