

STORIES JESUS TOLD



COMPASSION ■ WITNESS ■ PRAYER ■ PRIORITIES ■ FORGIVENESS

Persistent Expectation

[Luke 18:1-8]

1. Prayer [🏛️ justice - setting things right]

- **Luke 11:2** And he said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.”

2. Courage [not losing heart 🦊❤️]

- **Acts 14:21b-22** Paul and Barnabas . . . returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.
- **Galatians 6:9** And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.
- **Ephesians 3:13** So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Discussion Questions

1. Read Luke 18:1-8. In these , Jesus gives us the point of His parable before he even begins the story. How does the parable make the point that persistent prayer and courageous living is the calling of every believer?
2. Read Acts 14:19-23. This passage recounts the incredible courage Paul and Barnabas displayed in the face of fierce opposition. Their response to the people in verse 22 is extremely courageous. What does their response teach us about how to deal with injustice in our lives?
3. Pray that God will give you a focus on prayer and the courage to never waver in your desire to pursue His will for your life in both the peaks and valleys - driven by a persistent expectation rooted in Him and His promises.

Luke 17:20-30 Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, ²¹ nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”

²² And he said to the disciples, “The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. ²³ And they will say to you, ‘Look, there!’ or ‘Look, here!’ Do not go out or follow them. ²⁴ For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. ²⁵ But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. ²⁶ Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man. ²⁷ They were eating and drinking and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸ Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, ²⁹ but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— ³⁰ so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. . .

Luke 18:1-8 And Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

² Jesus 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?”

Take My Life and Let It Be [Frances Havergal - 1874]

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise, . . .

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, . . .

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee, . . .

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use e very power as thou shalt choose, . . .

Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne, . . .

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,