# "The Secrets of the Kingdom of God": the Parables of Jesus in Luke Luke 18:1–8: The Parable of the Unjust Judge

## The Parable of the Unjust Judge

"Pray without ceasing." (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

"And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him." (Matthew 6:7–8)

"My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (1 John 2:1)

### How Do I Develop a Persistent Prayer Life?

- 1. God
- 2. Desperation

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." (A. W. Tozer)

"But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." (2 Peter 3:8–9)

#### What Should I Pray For Persistently?

"He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:20)

"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10)

#### Notes

#### Discuss

- What are some words that you think should describe your prayer life?
- What are some words that you don't want to describe your prayer life?
- When you think about the three things that help Christians grow in persistent prayer (God, desperation, discipline), what is one that you think you need to focus on, and why?
- What are some of the things that have helped you pray persistently in the past, and what are some things that haven't worked?
- What are specific ways that Christians should be praying for justice?

#### Read

Luke 11:1–13; 18:9–14

## Pray

- That God will give you a deeper understanding of his character so that you will grow in persistent prayer.
- That God will give justice to his people, especially the persecuted church.
- That God will make our congregation a community which is marked by persistent prayer.

#### Announcements

- Operation Christmas Child packing party: November 13 from 9:30–11:30am (pitch-in breakfast starting at 9:00am)
- Building Workday: November 20 at 8:00am (sign up to serve)
- Thanksgiving meal: November 21 after the Sunday service (sign up to bring food)
- Mens' breakfast: December 4 at 8:00am
- Members' meeting: December 12 at 5:00pm