

And He told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.—Luke 18:1 ESV

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"Discouragement, which is the result of fatigue, is dissatisfaction with the past, distaste for the present, and distrust for the future."

—William Ward

²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself,

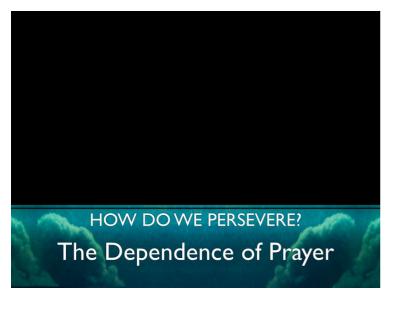
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'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'' ⁶And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says.

⁷And will not God give justice to His elect, who cry to Him day and night? Will He delay long over them?

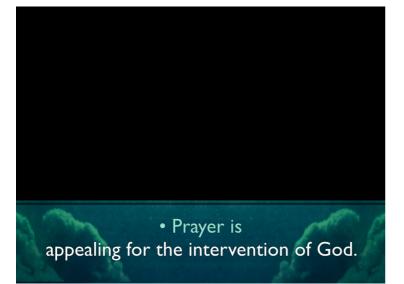
⁸I tell you, He will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?"—Luke 18:2-8 ESV

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Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." —Luke 11:1 ESV

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⁶He only is my rock and my salvation,my fortress; I shall not be shaken. ⁷On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God. ⁸Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah.

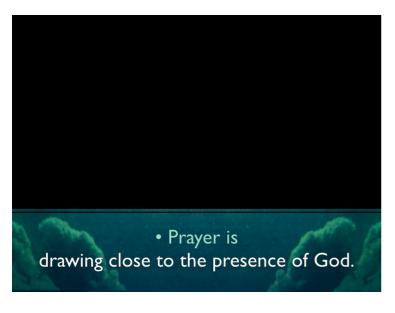
—Psalm 62:6-8 ESV

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Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
—Matthew 6:10 ESV

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"The nature of prayer is determined by the character of God, who is at once our friend, father, lover, shepherd and king. We must not decide how to pray based on what types of prayer are the most effective in producing the experiences and feelings we want. We pray in response to God Himself. God's Word to us contains the range of discourse—and only if we respond to His Word will our own prayer life be rich and varied." —Tim Keller

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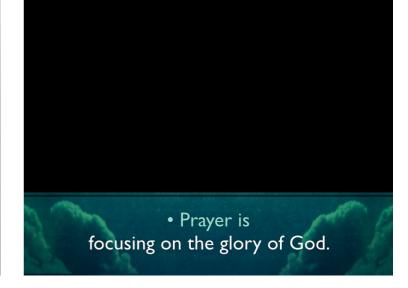


13And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

14Since then we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

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who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. —Hebrews 4:13-16 ESV



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"The self-sufficient do not pray,
the self-satisfied will not pray,
the self-righteous cannot pray.
No one is greater than
their prayer life."
—Leonard Ravenhill

"We can prove the reality of prayer only by praying." —Sherwood Eddy

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HOW DO WE PERSEVERE?

The Confidence of Justice

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

—James 1:27 ESV

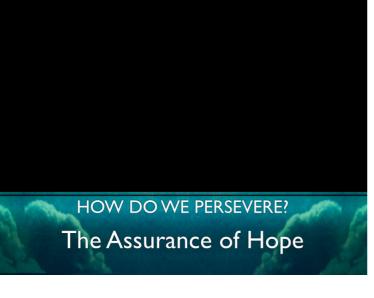
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13As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him. ¹⁴For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

—Psalm 103:13-14 ESV

¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. —Romans 12:19-21 ESV

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I tell you, He will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth? —Luke 18:8 ESV

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⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord.

See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.—James 5:7-8 ESV

"Trials, obstacles, difficulties, and defeats are the very food of faith."
—George Mueller

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The Lord is not slow to fulfill
His promise as some count
slowness, but is patient toward
you, not wishing that any should
perish, but that all should reach
repentance.—2 Peter 3:9 ESV