



Growth Group Questions
May 31, 2026
“Persistent Faith” (Faithfulness)

CONTEXT

The fruit of the spirit that we are focusing on this week is faithfulness. The Greek word used in Galatians is *pistis*. Depending on the context, this word also frequently translates to "faith" or "trust" in the New Testament. In the list of the fruits of the Spirit, it generally signifies reliability, fidelity, and trustworthiness in one's character.

In order to elaborate on this concept, we look to the parable of the persistent widow found in Luke 18. Jesus teaches us to pray with tenacity and persistence like that of someone who is desperate and who doesn't take no for an answer. In this section of Luke's gospel, we find Jesus on a journey to Jerusalem. He is teaching people about how to become a disciple, which is a life-long pursuit.

When we attempt to pray, Jesus continues to illustrate how with characters that are relatable. We have the judge that gives in to the constant nagging of the widow. This is a great reminder for us to continue obeying God even if the results are not instantly seen. Jesus shows us that faithfulness does not produce things visibly exactly when we want them. Instead, faithfulness grows us along the way.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:1-8

¹Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ²He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

⁴"For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"



⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

QUESTIONS

1. For the past seven weeks, we have been studying the of the Holy Spirit. This week, we are studying faithfulness. How do you define faithfulness as a fruit of the Spirit?
2. The title of this week’s sermon is “Persistent Faith.” How do you define “persistent faith?” What does it look like to you?
3. What does the widow’s persistence in the parable in Luke 18:1-8 teach us about faith?
4. The Parable of the Persistent Widow begins with the explanation that “Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.” In other words, we are to have a persistent prayer life. Why do you think God wants us to be persistent in our prayers?
5. How might persevering in our prayers strengthen our faith, even when we don’t get immediate answers?
6. The judge in the parable was motivated to act on behalf of the widow because she was so persistent and he didn’t want to be bothered by her anymore. What do you think motivates God to act on our behalf when we are persistent in our prayers?
7. What Bible verse(s) help you to understand the importance of being persistent in your faithfulness?
8. What strategies have proved helpful to you in developing and sustaining a persistent prayer life?
9. Pastor Kiensen spoke about the need for each of us to play a part in mending our fractured world as one of the lessons found in the Parable of the Persistent Widow. What other lessons did you learn from this parable?

