

9/29/24

Sermon – Persistence in Prayer (parables 12)

Scripture – Luke 18:1-8 & 11:5-8

Main Message – Your tenaciousness in prayer is important to God so that you learn the discipline of persistence. After all, if you love something you don't give up on it.

I can't imagine anything more important that you can do for others, for yourself, and for the Kingdom of Heaven than prayer. It shows love, devotion, trust and humility in the sense that you realize you are not truly in control of anything. We go through life thinking that we can get it done, but when we become so full of our own ability that there is no need for God, that is when things can quickly go south. We need prayer. There are a couple of parables from Luke that illustrate this.

Read Luke 18.

When you are persistent in prayer, this shows God that you are unable to address the situation perfectly yourself. You need help. As every parent in here knows, you help your children when it is beyond their experience or ability to handle something. God is the perfect parent. Children need to learn persistence. They need to understand that the world has limits. If God gave you what you wanted always after one quick prayer, then we would not learn this valuable lesson. If it is within God's will, and you have persisted in prayer, then a breakthrough is likely to happen. Your faith is developed when you persevere. The widow hounded the aloof judge. The word is pester. It's a Greek word here. The judge caves because there would be no peace otherwise. After all her cause must be right to continue pestering the judge.

Read Luke 11

Another way of looking at the same problem. Your neighbor has guests but no food and its late. So yes. Get up and get it done. This neighbor shamelessly banging on the door... give me some bread, is what God would like to see from us. This guy is desperate for his needs. How can I help him? He is so insistent that I'll never rest until he is so satisfied. This is How passionate God wants us to be in prayer. I need this... I'm lost without this, I gotta have this, etc.... I need help. Then God may answer.

It is a testimony of your love towards God to be persistent in prayer. It is a simple act of devotion and love to continue reaching out to him.

I suggest you do it.