

“Never Give Up!”

Luke 11: 9-13; 18:1-8
East Berlin Community Church
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Introduction

- Children learn how to manipulate parents to get what they want.
- Adults employ same tactics
- Persistence can be a good thing
- Objections to being “persistent” with God in prayer
- Dependent, desperate people pray—review of the Jesus’ seminar

Dependent, Desperate People Never Give Up!

A. The Principled Promises!—Luke 11:9-10

1. The Principle of Persistent Prayer
 - a. Asking—implies humility, consciousness of need, and faith
 - b. Seeking—is asking plus acting. Involves action on our part
Ps. 105:4; Jer. 29:12
 - c. Knocking—involves asking plus acting plus persevering
Rom. 12:12; Eph. 6:18; Col. 4:12; 1 Thess. 5:17
2. The Promise of Persistent Prayer
 - a. A corresponding response—v. 9
 - 1) Not always what we ask for—James 4:3
 - 2) Always according to God’s will—1 John 5:14-15
 - b. Promise repeated—v. 10 The GUARANTEE!

B. The Parable of the UNJUST JUDGE—Luke 18:1-8

1. The Set-Up: The “Should” of Persevering Prayer
2. The Story
 - a. Meet the Unjust Judge—v. 2
 - b. Meet the Helpless Widow—v. 3
 - c. See the Judge cave to the unrelenting badgering of this widow
3. Jesus’ point: *“The squeaky wheel gets the oil!”*

C. The Pay Off: *God answers persistent prayer!*

1. As the “righteous” Judge, God will vindicate his chosen ones—18:6-8
 - a. The Request of his disciples—*“Your kingdom Come”*
 - b. Prayer of the apostles and martyrs—Acts 1:6-8; Rev. 6:9-11
 - c. Reason for delay—2 Peter 3:9
 - d. One day, God will answer the request in Christ’s second coming.
2. As a compassionate, heavenly Father, God delights in giving the very BEST to his children.—
Luke 11: 11-13
 - a. As earthly fathers, we would not think of giving our children what would DEFILE them or DECEIVE or HARM them
 - b. Similarities and Differences between earthly and heavenly Father
 - c. God delights in giving us the very BEST—the Holy Spirit
 - d. The need for faith—Luke 18:8