



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of August 20, 2023

Sermon Text Luke 18:1-8

18 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. 2 He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. 3 And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' 4 For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" 6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. 7 And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? 8 I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiikaichurch.org/sermons/page/1>.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to "lose heart"? Assuming we believe in the power of prayer, what might cause a Christian to stop praying? Have you ever experienced this in your life? Explain.
2. In the parable of the persistent widow, the poor woman is helpless and the judge is heartless. There is no outward evidence that she will succeed in her petition. What keeps her going? What point is Jesus trying to make in this parable?
3. What do you think it means to be one of God's "elect" and how does this help believers when they feel like the struggling helpless widow?
4. This parable is not about persisting in prayer for good health, wealth, and prosperity. Rather, it is about not losing heart in longing for the kingdom of God. How does this parable influence what you pray for and how you pray?
5. How does your prayer life reflect your faith? In answer to Jesus' final question, will He find true faith *in you* when He returns?