

Do Not Lose Heart

Luke 18:1-8

(Teacher: Murray McLellan)

I. The Need for Ongoing Prayer

II. How Not to Pray

III. To Whom We Pray

IV. Justice is Coming

IV. Enduring Faith is Needed

Quotes related to this message:

In moments of suffering, it's tempting to allow yourself to doubt the goodness of God. You'll reason with yourself that somehow, someday, this moment of suffering is evidence that God is less than who He has depicted Himself to be. You can bring God into the court of your judgment and accuse Him of being unloving and unfaithful to His promises. Here's why doubt is such a deadly trap: as soon as you begin to question the character of God, you'll quit running to Him for help because you don't go for help to someone whom you no longer trust. ~ Paul Tripp

The criteria for coming to Jesus is weariness. Come overwhelmed with life. Come with your wandering mind. Come messy. ~ Paul Miller

The gospel of Luke tells us that "Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed" (Lk. 5:16)... This is precisely where you and I so often miss out on all that God has for us. Unlike Jesus, we attempt to live life in our own energy. We think we can keep giving out without getting replenished. Then, wearied and weakened by the demands of life and ministry, we become impatient and annoyed with the very ones God has sent us to serve. Rather than exhibiting a gracious, calm, joyous spirit, we become uptight, frazzled, and frenzied (people), resenting, rather than welcoming, the people and opportunities God brings into our lives. ~ Nancy Leigh DeMoss

Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire? ~ Corrie ten Boom

Above all – and again this I regard as most important of all – always respond to every impulse to pray... It is the work of the Holy Spirit... So never resist, never postpone it, never push it aside because you are busy. Give yourself to it, yield to it; and you will find not only that you have not been wasting time with respect to the matter with which you are dealing, but that actually it has helped you greatly in that respect. ~ Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Jesus will always give you exactly what you would have asked for, if you knew everything he knows. ~ Tim Keller

Upcoming Events:

- **Hosting Gatherings:** Today: North/Gateway; Nov. 3rd 2:15 (switch); Nov. 10th Erindale (switch); Nov. 17th West End; Nov. 24th Central/Evergreen; Dec. 1st Junction; Dec. 8th North/Gateway; Dec. 15th Erindale
- **Oct. 29th - Bible Seminar: the End Times/Second Coming** – (6:30 – 9:30 pm) Register on the [gracesask.com website](https://gracesask.com).
- **Nov. 1st – Fall Fun Fair** – Grace Youth hosting this free event for the whole church family: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Saskatoon Christian School – Games and prizes
- **Nov. 3rd – Grace Church Family Meeting** – bring your own lunch – 12:45 pm – 2 pm at the Upper Room.
- **Nov. 24th – Baptisms:** If you want to profess your faith in Jesus, talk to Brett Husky about being baptized.

Church Bible Reading Plan for October: PROVERBS

Ten Practical Suggestions for Prayer as a Delight and Not Just a Duty (adapted from J.D. Greear's book, *Just Ask*).

1. Riff off of the Lord's Model Prayer Outline.

Take each line of Jesus' model prayer outline, let it saturate your heart, and then riff off of it. Look to the Spirit to help and guide you as you do it.

2. Use the acrostic ACTS to help you pray.

A – Adoration. C – Confession. T – Thanksgiving. S – Supplication.

3. Use a prayer companion.

I love *The Valley of Vision*, a collection of Puritan prayers; *The Songs of Jesus* by Tim and Kathy Keller, which prays through the Psalms; and the *Five Things to Pray* series.

4. Set aside two or three brief times a day for prayer rather than one long one.

Aim to pray for five minutes in the morning, for five minutes right after lunch, and for five minutes just before you go to bed.

5. Take a morning walk and pray out loud.

Praying out loud helps us focus on what we're saying and keeps us concentrating on actually praying. Plus, learning to pray out loud prepares us to pray out loud with others, which is a way to encourage others.

6. Set reminders on your phone or calendar to pray for specific needs at specific times.

Have an alarm or notification that goes off at the same time each day to remind you to pray for someone or some situation. Prayer apps like EchoPrayer or PrayerMate can help.

7. Pray in the moment with people.

If another believer shares a concern or problem with you, don't just promise to pray for them (though that's great, obviously). Actually pray for them, right then and there.

8. Prayer-walk your neighborhood, office, or school.

Walk about naturally, praying silently for people and for places, and for anything else that the Spirit prompts you to lift up to God.

9. If you have kids, let them hear you pray.

Nothing disciplines someone quite so well as letting them hear you pray.

10. Enjoy your time with your Father.

Prayer really is our greatest privilege. "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called the children of God!" (1 John 3:1).

Murray has also put together a "5 prayers for your day" paper that could help direct your prayers. It includes a spot to add the names of 5 people you are praying would come to know Jesus (as per our discipleship plan). You can find that paper [here](#).

Get Connected:

The church of Jesus is not an event or a place. It is a rich, deeply relational, Spirit-led community on God's mission.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a part of the Grace family and partnering with us on Jesus' mission, please visit: <https://gracesask.com/partner/> or send an email to: partnership@gracesask.com if you have questions.

Much of our discipleship happens in smaller groups we call Gospel Communities. Our Gateway Gospel Community is a great first step to joining and learning more about our vision and mission. Contact: don@gracesask.com

Next Sunday, November 3rd – Luke 18:9-17 (Don) – Hosting: 2:15 Gospel Community

Grace Fellowship: Love Jesus - Love People - Help People Love Jesus
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