

**The Ark**  
**Wednesday, June 28, 20-23**  
**Persistence in Prayer**

**Stewardship**

*2 Corinthians 9:10 Amplified. Now He, who provides seed for the sower, and bread for food will provide and multiply your seed for sowing [that is, your resources] and increase the harvest of your righteousness [which shows itself in active goodness, kindness, and love].*

PEACH PIT POTENTIAL....

**Lesson**

**Persistence in Prayer**

*James 5:16 Amplified Classic. Confess to one another therefore your faults (your slips, your false steps, your offenses, your sins) and pray (also) for one another, that you may be healed and restored. The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available (dynamic in its working).*

*Pastor Alan has been teaching us on the power of prayer and last time I taught, I also taught on prayer. Tonight we will continue to study prayer and I want to begin with a parable on prayer:*

**Parable** – To throw alongside. A parable is a story about ordinary, easily understood things that explains spiritual truth.

**A Parable of Prayer:**

*Luke 18:1-8 NIV*

*Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them they should always pray and not give up. 2. He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. 3. And 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 5. Yet 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?"*

**The purpose of this parable:** To teach us that we should always pray and never give up.

**The Key:** Persistence

### **Our faith is reflected by our persistence in prayer.**

- A. Persistence gets a clear picture in their mind of what they expect to receive (based on promises in the Bible, and then speaks those promises back to God in prayer.)
- B. The example of Daniel: He fasted and prayed for three weeks. Finally, the angel of the Lord appeared to him and made an astounding statement: *Daniel 10:12-13 NKJV Then he said to me, "fear not, Daniel; for from the first day that you did set your heart to understand and to chasten yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I am come for your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days; but lo, Michael, one of the chief princes came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia."*
- C. **Lack of persistence in prayer is one of the main reasons people do not receive their promise.** (Galatians 6:9 Amplified. *And let us not lose heart and grow weary and faint in acting nobly and doing right, for in due time and at the appointed season, we shall reap, if we do not loosen and relax our courage and faint."*)

### **Seasons of Prayer**

*Isaiah 55:8 KJV For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways says the Lord. 9. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10. For as the rain comes down and the snow from heaven and returns not, but waters the earth and makes it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater; 11. So shall my word be that goes forth out of my mouth: It shall not return void, but it shall accomplish that which I please and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.)*

SEED TIME and Harvest (Example of Blue Bonnets.

*Luke 18:1 NIV Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them they should always pray and not give up.*

Let me say again; The main reason for lack of answers to prayer is lack of Persistence and persistence....

*Hebrews 10:36 Amp. For you have need of steadfast patience and endurance, so that you may perform and fully accomplish the will of God, and thus receive and carry away what is promised.*

### **THE AFRICAN CHEETAH:**

- **is the fastest animal on earth, running up to 70mph.**
- **However, because the cheetah has a small heart and tires quickly, he must catch his prey before he runs out of energy.**

**There is a fight of faith involved in persistent prayer!**

**Satan wants to wear you out!**

Daniel 7:25 (a) Amp. He (Satan) will speak words against the Most High [God] and wear down the saints of the Most High,

Satan wants to hinder the plans and purposes of God on earth so he attacks our mind to keep us from prayer because EVERY PLAN OF GOD ON EARTH IS BIRTHED IN PRAYER.

Texas expression: "Hunker Down"

Dictionary = (1) To hold resolutely or stubbornly to when confronted by opposition, criticism, etc. until the resistance begins to break down!

(2) To squat on heels as in a birthing position

ISAIAH 40:31 NKJV *But those who wait on the Lord  
Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.*