

## Marinating In God's Word:

Luke 18:1-8

Our approach to prayer is rooted in our understanding of our relationship to and with God. This week we are looking at the Parable of the Persistent Widow and asking what Jesus is teaching us about approaching God in prayer.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

Before you read the passage, how would you describe your typical approach to prayer? When do you do it? What motivates you to pray? How do you see yourself before God?

Jesus is obviously comparing us to that of a widow. What is the significance of using a widow as the character who prays? (He could have used a doctor, tax collector, or any other type of person.) How are we supposed to resonate and see ourselves as the widow?

The deepest impact of this Scripture is in the revealing of the character of God. How is He different from the unjust judge? How does this shape the way we pray? Take some time to look up other Scriptures on the Father's love, how do they further impact your understanding of prayer. (Ideas: Jn. 3:16, 1 Jn. 3:1, Mt. 7:9-11, Mt. 18:12-14, Jn. 14:15-17)

Based on your discussion, how do you bring all of it back around to v. 1 – that prayer enables us to “...not lose heart?”