

# Luke 18-1-14: Prayerfully Devoted

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**READ** Luke 18-1-14, Psalm 34 and **LISTEN** to Pastor Andrew Edmonds [sermon](#).

Andrew Murray said, “*We make time— even at the cost of something else—for the sake of enjoying pleasant conversation with our friend... but day after day, month after month passes, and for many there is no time to spend even one hour with God*”. We are often like the disciples in the garden of Gethsemane who failed to pray for even one hour with Jesus. In Luke 18:1-14 these two parables teaches us to have humility and request that God make us to be people who persistently pray, who trust in Him for the right answers at the right time. *If “Prayer is the acid test of devotion”, then we must humbly and persistently be prayerfully devoted.*

**Main lesson:** Believers can learn that they should be humbly devoted to persistent prayer by learning from Jesus parables in [Luke 18:1-14](#).

## Questions:

1. Why pray if your Father already knows what you need before you ask him (Matthew 6:8)? Who benefits the most from prayer-man or God?
2. How should the disciples and you act when the coming of the Lord (or answers) seems delayed? *What is the relationship between faith and persistence?*
3. What is the lesson Jesus is teaching in the first parable about the unjust judge? What are the differences in the motives between the judge and God?
4. In verses 7-8 the concept of time is mentioned, so then how are we to understand the timing of God in responding to prayer?

5. How do you prayerfully ‘*hurry up and wait*’ for the second coming of Jesus? *What is the relationship between faith and patience?*
6. How does the Pharisee view of himself relate to his view of others? *What is the relationship between faith and pride?*
7. What do your public and private prayers reveal about your character? What practices do you secretly take pride in and how does this affect your prayer life?
8. What does justified before God mean (v.14)? *What is the relationship between faith and penitence?*
9. What is the lesson Jesus is teaching in the second parable about the pharisee and tax collector? What are the differences in the motives between the two men? How does this relate to approaching Jesus like a ‘child’ (Luke 18:15-17).

**Reflect:** What factors have caused you to quit praying? What is God saying to you in these parables about prayer? If Jesus came to your home today would He find faith?

## STOP AND PRAY:

**Praise...** *God who always answers our prayers in the right way at the right time.*

**Confess...** *Of your selfishness and pride by asking Jesus to have mercy on you when you have so often trusted your self rather than pray to Him.*

**Pray...** For each other to be people who are patient and prayerfully devoted to God, that we take great pleasure in the persistence of praying to Jesus. Pray for enabling grace to constantly and humbly approach our Father as a child of God in prayer!