

Session #3 – “Praying or Losing Heart”
Luke 18:1-8; Is 40:27-31)

We Either Pray or We Faint/Lose Heart – Lk 18:1-8

- A parable of contrast:
 - ...the unjust judge was unrighteous... our God is not!
 - ...the woman had to beg/plead... we are invited to come!
 - ...she sought legal rights... we pursue grace!
 - ...no one to plead her case... we have an Advocate!
 - ...the Judge did not know her... our Father knows us by name!
- The “wailing” prayer or the “waiting” prayer – Is 40:27-31
 - ...the “wailing” ones are impatient and weary – Is 40:27
 - ...the “waiting” ones become patient and strong – Is 40:31

Hindrances and Helps:

Hindrances

- ask not/ask amiss – Ja 4:2-3
- demand for immediacy – Is 40:31; Ga 6:9
- doublemindedness – Ja 1:8
- wrong view of God – Ps 50:21
- one dimensional/sided – Ps 106:13,25; 107:11; 81:8,11,13
- substitutes – Matt 25:1ff

Helps

- God reliance/other interested – I Cor 4:7; Phil 2:3,4
- submissive waiting – Ecc 3:1-11
- singlemindedness – Phil 3:12-14; Matt 6:33
- God is Love – I Jo 4:8
- Dialogue/listening – Ps 46:10; Jo 10:27
- Pray! – Jo 14:13; Col 4:2

Modes:

- PRAISE – Ps 29:1-2; 34:1-3; 103:1-2
...focus on God's attributes; celebrate His character; affirm His majesty (names, deeds, power of God)
- SILENCE – Ps 46:10; 131:1-3; Is 30:15; Matt 12:19; Mk 6:31
...presenting ourselves in loving attentiveness to God
- PRAYING SCRIPTURES – Ps 119:105; Jo 8:32; 17:17; Ro 10:17; Col 3:16
...listening for our Father's voice
- MEDITATION – Ps 19:14; 77:6,12; Col 3:1-4
...digesting what we're taking in; questions and applications?
- THANKSGIVING – Ps 95:2; 100:4; Eph 5:20; II Cor 9:15
...honoring God as the Giver of all I need (when I need it!); letting go of self-determination
- PETITION – Ps 57:2; Eph 6:18; Phil 4:6; I Tim 2:1
...pouring our needs and desires into the Infinite Love of God
- INTERCESSION – I Sam 12:23; Heb 7:25
...praying for God's interests in others
- LISTENING PRAYER – Ps 50:7; 78:1; 81:8; Hab 2:1; Matt 11:15
...receiving "living and spirit" words from God (Jo 6:63)
- SINGING PRAYER – Ps 13:6; 100:2; Eph 5:19; Col 3:16
...celebrating God as "Lord of The Dance"
- CONFESSION – Ps 32:5; 91:2; 118:4; Is 26:13; Heb 4:14; 10:23
...saying what God says: "You are... I am... that is..."
- STEWARDSHIP PRAYING – Eph 5:15-17; II Cor 8:1-5; 9:6-11
...resource investment/distribution that honors God
(praying through your calendar; checkbook/card statements; walk through your house...)