

September 4

NEXT STEPS



PARABLES

Parable of the Persistent Widow

This week we continue the message series called "Parables." Throughout this series we will dig into Parables of Jesus and how His teachings impact us today. For this week, we will be looking at the Parable of the Persistent Widow from Luke 18:1-8.

Questions to *Dig Deeper*:

1. The judge is described as someone who neither fears God nor respects, or regards, people. What impression does this give us of the judge? Would we expect a judge like this to be helpful to someone seeking justice? Or maybe better, how do you think this judge got their job in the first place?
2. The widow's persistence in the story is described in particularly forceful terms; we might say she "keeps hammering away" at the judge in her demands for justice. What word or words would we use to describe this trait in a person? Do we think of this as a positive trait, a negative trait, or something else? When we think of the widow, do we have a generally positive impression, or not?
3. Does the widow demonstrate "faith"? How? Does the judge demonstrate "faith"? How? What does the parable tell us about "faith"? What would it mean for the Son of Man to "find faith on earth" – that is, what behavior or behaviors would demonstrate that "faith" – in light of this parable?
4. Bill talked about choosing a person, cause, or thing to be praying for consistently for the next month. What or who are you going to be praying for? Share with others why you feel you were led to choose your prayer.