



Week beginning October 19th

Choosing Faith: Persistent Faith

Opening Questions

- How good are you at persevering when faced with a difficult task? Are you determined to keep going or do you tend to find excuses to stop?
- When have you—or when has someone you know—had to keep pushing for justice when the system didn't seem to care?

Getting into the text

Read Luke 18:1-8

- What do we learn about the judge and the widow from the parable?
- What kind of power does the judge hold, and what kind of power does the widow have? Who are today's "judges" who refuse to act unless they are pressured?
- Why did the judge eventually give in?

- How is God different from the judge?

Applying the Bible to your life

- What does this parable teach you about what faithful people are called to do? How does it encourage you?
- Where are you being called to persist in faith at the moment? What are some of the challenges? What might help you to keep going?
- Looking at your community, who might feel they are being ignored? How could you stand with them as they seek justice?

Something to pray about

In Hebrew 1:1-2 we read, ‘... **let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.**’

- Offer to God situations where your faith is being tested at the moment, asking him to help you to persevere.
- Pray for anyone you know who has lost heart and drifted away from fellowship, asking God to draw them back to a closer relationship with him.
- Reflect for a moment on issues in the news and pray for people and places where there is a need for justice and fair treatment.