



# LUKE

## LUKE 18

Read either before your small group or all together at the start.

1. The first parable in Luke 18 dealt with persistence in prayer. Are there any prayers that you feel like you've given up on? Why do you think that is? Could you commit to praying alongside each other throughout the week for these prayers that require more persistence?
2. In Luke 18:9-14, Jesus tells the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector. He contrasted the way each of them prayed helping us to see that prayer should come out of relationship not religion. What do you think that means? How can you do that in your own life?
3. Chrissy pointed out that in every story in Luke 18 the person coming before Jesus to pray or to ask for help was essentially powerless - all in different ways - but all powerless. Are there areas of your life in which you feel powerless? Do you find yourself fighting that feeling wanting to come before God feeling more in control? Where do you need to acknowledge your dependence on and need for God?
4. Jesus emphasised multiple times in this chapter that what we receive from him comes because of relationship not because we are "religious." What are the ways you might be tempted to try to earn what Jesus wants to give you through relationship? Why is this a dangerous way of living? What is damaging about it? What can free you of this way of living and allow you to lean into relationship with Jesus more?
5. Chrissy pointed out that just as the disciples didn't full understand or grasp who Jesus was or what he was trying to tell them about himself, we too can sometimes have a view of Jesus that is deficient. In what ways do you think it's possible to have a deficient view of Jesus? What is your tendency? (Do you see him as a harsh judge, a strict headmaster, a loving father or something else...) Why is it a problem to not have a clear view of who Jesus really is?
6. When the blind man in Luke 18:35-43 knew that Jesus was coming he called out for help with audacity, not caring what anyone else thought. Do you think your prayers have the same type of shameless audacity? Why/why not? How can you develop that in your life?