



## A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families: For the week of October 21, 2018

Note to Discussion Leaders: Have members read the Bible passage in the group meeting. This is a “worship discussion” guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. Read through this guide before meeting with the group. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for the time of meeting together, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Luke 18:1-8 Persistence

This week, Changjwok Deng preached on [Luke 18:1-8](#).

#### First things first...

- God is not like this judge
- Always pray and not lose heart?
- Just tell us when and where

#### What does the word “and” beginning verse 1 tell us?

- The context of the Parable
- “Being asked by the Pharisee when the Kingdom of God would come...and they said to him, “where, Lord?” ([Luke 17:1, 37](#))

#### Outline of [Luke 17:20-37](#)

1. Jesus’ answer is “the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you” (20-21)
2. The second coming of the Son of Man is universal and not quiet (22-24)
3. The rejection, suffering and the death of the Son of Man (25)
4. Description of the second coming of the Son of Man and examples from the Old Testament (26-32)
5. In a predicament the disciples asked “where, Lord” (37)

#### We are “Watchers for the Return”

J.A. Motyer speaks of the parity of the Cross and the Return. Speaking of the Return of Jesus, Motyer said that Apostle Paul “describes us as ‘watchers for the return’-we await a Savior ([Philippians 3:20](#)). The Second Coming is the designed end of all God’s saving work. Again, we have been taught that the death of Christ has been the subject of deliberate divine appraisal and response; that God has responded to the Cross in the supreme exaltation of Jesus above every conceivable authority, and that the intended outcome of this is universal submission to Jesus Christ who is Lord. In God’s estimation Calvary requires the Return as its only just and adequate acknowledgement. Nothing else will suffice to express what God thinks of the obedience of His Son. To deny the Return is to fail to appreciate the Cross; to forget the Return is to lose hold of the excellence of the Cross”

As “watchers for the return”, we must exhibit a faith like of this widow that cries out to God for vindication “how long before you will judge?” ([Revelation 6:10](#)). The answer is “not long” and “nothing can stop God from vindicating His people.”

- Not even a broken city or a broken world
- Not even the unrighteous judge
- Not even the adversary himself

#### What do we know about this widow?

- “And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary...yet because this widow keeps bothering me...she will not beat me down by her continual coming’.” (3,5)

#### Because...

- Our God is faithful
- Our God hears
- God vindicates

## Going Deeper in God's Worship

Reflect on the text together. [Hear the sermon here.](#)

- 1.) What is true about God's character, promises or work?
- 2.) What does the Scripture teach you about yourself or others?
- 3.) Are you encouraged to follow Jesus in His mission? How?

Reflect on the whole of Sunday's liturgy together. Locate this week's [Order of Worship here.](#)

- 1.) Was there an element of the worship service that you would like to share with the group?
  - *A Scripture verse that was read?*
  - *A prayer that was prayed?*
  - *A song that was sung?*
  - *A sacrament that was administered?*
  - *A way that glory was given to God?*
  - *A way that someone encouraged you?*
- 2.) Did the Holy Spirit convict, change, or encourage you in any way you wish to share with the group?
- 3.) Is Jesus leading you or the group to take a specific risk to minister the Good News to Richmond? Your neighbors? Your co-workers? Your family and friends?

## Going Further in Christ's Mission

- 1.) Have the Scripture text open in front of you as a guide to your prayers.
  - Spend time thanking God and giving Him glory.
- 2.) Ask the Lord for vision, strength and faith as followers of Jesus Christ.
  - Count on the work of the Holy Spirit for change.
  - Ask for God's forgiveness and grace to repent of sin and trust Jesus.
  - Pray for the world, our country, Richmond, and the Church.
  - Pray for members of your group, family members, or co-workers, neighbors and friends.

Questions about this week's study guide? Contact Kevin Greene, [kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org)  
To hear sermons and access past study guides visit [www.wepc.org/archivedsermons](http://www.wepc.org/archivedsermons)