



Daily Reflections

November 18, 2017

Scripture

Luke 18: 1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.' For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'" The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Our Scripture Reflection

Jesus uses the example of a poor widow to teach an important lesson on the importance of persistence in prayer. Unlike the unjust judge who only gives in to the demand of the widow out of fear, God who is truly just will answer

the prayers of those who call out to Him. Like the widow, we must not give up on God and use our time of waiting to discern the difference between our wants and our needs.

Food for your Journey

Last June, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against student-initiated, student-conducted prayer at public high school football games, it seemed like yet another setback for Christian believers.

In one sense, it is quite discouraging, although some have wondered whether a football game is an appropriate place for something as sacred as prayer. But a [Campus Journal] devotional is not the place to discuss issues of constitutional law. Instead, let's focus on all the places we can pray, rather than complain about the situations where we can't.

When we start to develop that list, we see that we have lots of opportunities to pray - in school (e.g., before that chemistry final), at home, at church, outside, inside, with friends, alone. The Supreme Court did take away that 30 seconds of prayer before a football game, but that still leaves a lot of time.

- "Where can you pray?"

Campus Journal, January 30, 2001.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You always see to it that my needs are met according to Your plan for me. Help me, Lord, to know the difference between what I want in light of what I truly need. May I humbly realize that Your love is sufficient for me. Amen.