

— THE — POWER OF STORY

Part 2

Keep Looking Up

This past Sunday Pastor Ken continued *The Power of Story*. During this series we invite you to look with us at the power of story to change us. Jesus' parables can help us to understand and put into practice our faith. Meet with someone at work, your family, or find a place to do it alone or with a friend. Let's grow and do life together during this series.

Now when a large crowd was coming together, and those from the various cities were journeying to Him, He spoke by way of a parable. Luke 8:4

1. Jesus knew the power of story and would use it to communicate powerful truths. This week's parable (story) has to do with a widow (Read Luke 18:1-8 and James 1:27). Before Jesus tells the story, He gives the disciples the point of it. We should always pray and never give up. Have you ever felt like giving up? When you feel like giving up, don't give up, look up. What is your most urgent need right now?
2. In the 1st Century a widow was dependent on whatever her husband had left her. Widows were often oppressed and taken advantage of. You cannot always control what happens to you, but you can control how you respond. When life is not fair, we do not have to look down in defeat or give up, instead we can look up (read Hebrews 4:16).
3. We can take our case to God with confidence knowing that He cares and loves us, and in the right way, at the right time, He will make things right. What you think of God will have an impact on if and how you pray. Do you think of God as someone who is reluctant or one who welcomes your case?
4. You can be sure that God hears your cry and invites you to ask and keep on asking. If you feel like giving up, let this story that uphold of you and do not give up, look up. We should keep praying as we live for Jesus, believing that He will answer. God might not answer right away, he isn't neglecting you, but has good reasons for doing so. Persisting in prayer builds character, grows our faith, and gives us hope. Keep looking up.

Close in prayer