

Priorities of Faith

DAY 6 — GRIT, PASSION, AND PERSEVERANCE

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” (Gal. 6:9, ESV)

Spiritual Grit

Grit is something we don't often associate with spiritual matters. But it is just as important in our daily pursuit of holiness as it is in other areas of life, from sports to learning to successful business transactions. Without grit, success is unlikely. Grit is the passion and perseverance of pursuing a goal we deeply care about. In order to reach our goal, we organize our lives in such a way that nothing distracts us. We need such grit in our spiritual walk with God, and we need it in a special way in our prayer life. Too often, we do not see the results of our prayer requests because we are not persistent in our prayers. Perhaps we get distracted or discouraged, or we give up in our hearts and do not believe that God can hear and act in ways far beyond our comprehension. In Luke 18, Jesus tells His disciples the story of a widow who persistently brought her case to an unjust judge. Although this judge had no regard for God or the woman, he eventually granted the widow's request because of her persistence (Luke 18:1-7). God, however, is not indifferent to our prayer requests as the unjust judge was. God is eager to help far more than we can even understand (Jer. 33:3).

What we need today, in our marriages, in our classrooms and dormitories, in our churches and homes, are people who pray. Not just those who talk about prayer, those who say they believe in prayer, or even those who can give nice explanations about prayer. We need people who actually take the time and pray!

Persistence

God does not work on the premise of faster and cheaper. Often in the great controversy between God and Satan we need persistent prayer. We must be passionate and persistent in our prayers because God's timetables often don't line up with our human understanding. God rarely takes the path of least resistance when working out His divine solutions. He is not interested in the easy way out but in the best way through! In our prayers, let us not settle for less or remain satisfied with shortsighted goals. God is pleased when we persevere in our prayers.

In the study room of my father, who was a successful evangelist and pastor, he had a quote from Ellen G. White that left a deep impression on me: “The greatest victories to the church of Christ or to the individual Christian are not those that are gained by talent or education, by wealth or the favor of men. They are those victories that are gained *in the audience chamber with God*, when earnest, agonizing faith lays hold upon the mighty arm of power” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 203, emphasis supplied).

Let's pray together.

Prayer Time (30–45 Minutes)**Praying God's Word — Gal. 6:9**

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

"Let Us Not Grow Weary of Doing Good"

Jesus, You are the most persevering Being in the universe. You did not give up in Your ministry of interceding and intervention. No matter what Satan and sinners throw at You, You are still You, and in love, You give Yourself to us. We are in awe, oh God. Teach us such spiritual, selfless persistence, especially in our prayer life. Make us prayer warriors who do not give up. Amen.

"In Due Season We Will Reap"

Our loving God, we praise You for allowing us to participate in Your mission on this planet. Thank You for the joy of service and the joy of engaging in the work of bringing people to You. Sometimes we feel discouraged and ready to give up, but we pray that You will give us the perseverance and spiritual grit needed to do the work You have called us to do. Thank You that You will bless and that we will see the fruit of this blessed ministry. Amen.

More Prayer Suggestions

Thanks and Praise: Give thanks for specific blessings and praise God for His goodness.

Confession: Take a few minutes for private confession and thank God for His forgiveness.

Guidance: Ask God to grant wisdom for current challenges and decisions.

Our Church: Pray for regional and world church needs (see separate sheet with requests).

Local Requests: Pray for current needs of church members, family, and neighbors.

Listen and Respond: Take time to listen for God's voice and respond in praise or song.

Song Suggestions

SDA Hymnal: Work, for the Night Is Coming (#375); Trust and Obey (#590); Higher Ground (#625)

Other Songs: I Shall Not Be Moved; Dare to Be a Daniel; He's Able