



## Heartbeats along the way: The Fervently Praying Heart

*Luke 18:1. Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.  
Luke 18:7. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?*

A previous note told about Blind Bartimaeus and his desire for Jesus to heal him. Today's note reflects a parable Jesus tells about a widow seeking justice (another class of persons on the bottom rung of the success ladder) to emphasize our job in bringing God's Kingdom to earth. Both the healing event and the parable share one common thrust: Pray -- talk fervently with God and don't let others keep you from doing it.

There is a great deal to pray about on our journey to the Spring Garden Campus. And each of us has some specific area in this effort for which we can dedicate some fervent prayer time.

All of us can pray in rejoicing and thanksgiving for everything God has done and seen to in the creation of our new worship site at Spring Garden. We've also been asked to pray for those who work there, that they may be safe, that they are able to work cooperatively, and that they understand that they are working on holy ground. And we can ask God to continue to bless the work remaining. Finally, let's pray for our Visioning Teams that God will inspire and energize them to prepare us for the work we will do to fulfill our vision and mission and Live like Jesus.

Jesus used hyperbole to make the point that if even the most heartless of persons, for the most self-ish of reasons, would grant the widow justice, how much more is God ready to hear our prayers and answer them?

*"Heavenly Father, hear our fervent prayers for our life at the Spring Garden Campus. Even as we prepare the building, prepare our lives to live more like Jesus and offer the Gospel to all. In Your Holy Name, Amen."*

~ cl reynolds