**Week of July 15, 2018**

**Luke 18:1-8**

**The Parable of the Persistent Widow**

18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. 2 He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. 3 And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’ 4 “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’” 6 And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

**Understanding of the Scripture**

In this week’s scripture Jesus introduces us to the term persistence. Persistence is a firm or obstinate continuance in a course of action in spite of difficulty or opposition. Persistence is a refusal to quit. It is an unwillingness to move aside. It is believing in a cause and being distracted by nothing. We are born with the characteristic but somewhere down the line we waver from it. As a baby we are persistent in finding ways to communicate our needs when we are hungry. As a babies we are persistent in our efforts to learn to walk. There is this never give attitude and actions by us no matter how dire the circumstances. Jesus introduces us to a widow how was persistent in her efforts to receive justice. A window during these time was supposed to be taken care up by others: Family, Other Males, and Religious Sector. The widow being persistent went to the judge to receive some relief. The judge was not a godly man. The window continued to go the judge for relief and the judge grudgingly finally yielded to her persistence and granted to hear her say before him. So even though she was persistent and finally was heard by this ungodly judge can you imagine what one persistence would mean to someone who cares and believes in providing justice? Jesus is telling us that our father in heaven is just and compassionate and will meet our needs. He looks forward to us asking in faith those things that we need and he will show us compassion and provide justice.

