

St. Luke Chapters 18 Study Questions

1. **Luke 18:1–8** What in the passage suggests that the widow was sure of the justice of her case and how does Jesus apply the moral of the story to his audience?

How does the widow's perseverance in pressing her case compare with your own perseverance in prayer?

Psalm 55:16-17 But I call upon God, and the LORD will save me. Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he will hear my voice.

Footnote p. 140, **18:1-14 Two parables on Christian prayer**

2. **Luke 18:9–14** Why is it dangerous to compare the practice of your faith with the practice of others?

How satisfied (or discontented) are you with your own religious practices?

How do you think Jesus looks on that satisfaction (or discontent)?

CCC 2613.c. The parable of, “the Pharisee and the tax collector,” concerns the humility of the heart that prays. “God, be merciful to me a sinner!” The Church continues to make this prayer its own: Kyrie eleison!

3. **Luke 18:15** To what question is the noun “infants” tied to in this passage?

To what answer do the various passages cited in the study lead?

Word Study: Infants (p. 142)

4. **Luke 18:16** What does this passage have to do with the practice of Infant Baptism?

What evidence is there that the early Church practiced Infant Baptism?

Footnote p. 142, **18:16 Belongs to the kingdom**

CCC 1252 The practice of infant Baptism is an immemorial tradition of the Church. There is explicit testimony to this practice from the second century on, and it is quite possible that, from the beginning of the apostolic preaching, when whole “households” received baptism, infants may also have been baptized.

5. **Luke 18:22** How does Jesus expose the rich official's greatest weakness?

What is the lesson for us?

Footnote p. 142, **18:22 Sell All**

CCC 2052 “Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?” To the young man who asked this question, Jesus answers first by invoking the necessity to recognize God as the “One there is who is good,” as the supreme Good and the source of all good. Then Jesus tells him: “If you would enter life, keep the commandments.” And he cites for his questioner the precepts that concern love of neighbor: “You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.” Finally Jesus sums up these commandments positively: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

6. **Luke 18:28-30** What have you given up to follow Jesus?
How have you experienced what he offers in exchange?

Footnote p. 142, **18:29 Wife ... brothers ... parents**

Romans 6:21-23 (p. 265)

7. **Luke 18:35** Who was the blind man at Jericho and what irony is attached to his behavior?
What moral application did St. Augustine give this passage?

Footnote p. 143, **18:35 Jericho ... a blind man**