



Daily Verse and Comment

Luke 18:1

(1) And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

King James Version

"Not lose heart" or "faint" (KJV) means to grow weary, to give in to evil, to turn coward. We must resist the human tendency of growing weary in prayer. We have a duty as the elect of [God](#) to pray. There are several major causes of losing heart: defilement, doubt, danger, distractions, and delay.

» The *defilement* of [sin](#) kills interest in spiritual exercises like prayer. Sin does not promote a good prayer life—in fact, it will stop it dead. "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear" ([Psalm 66:18](#)).

» Praying with *doubt* is faithless, making the prayer useless. Doubting the inspiration of Scripture and the power of God hinders prayer ([I Timothy 2:8](#)). As prayer and [faith](#) go hand in hand, so do unbelief and not praying.

» Prayer must sometimes be done at *dangerous* times. Danger weeds out the coward from the courageous. Daniel faced real danger in praying, but kept on praying, even though it led to the lion's den (Daniel 6). Today, our dangers are varied, but the danger of embarrassment often affects people more than danger of physical harm.

» [Satan](#) is a master of causing *distractions*, especially during prayer time. Probably every saint has experienced his mind wandering, causing him to think about everything except what he should be praying about.

» Few things cause us to lose heart in praying more than *delays* in answers to our requests. [Jesus](#) uses the Parable of the Persistent Widow to teach us that, though answers often appear to take a long time in coming, we should persevere and not grow weary in praying to God.

— Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see:

[Parable of the Persistent Widow](#)

Related Topics:

[Defilement](#)

[Delay, Effects of](#)

[Distraction](#)

[Doubting](#)

[Doubts](#)

[Losing Heart](#)

[Parable of the Unjust Judge](#)

[Perseverance](#)

[Prayer](#)

[Prayer, Growing Weary in](#)

[Prayer, Losing Heart in](#)

[Weariness](#)

[Weariness in Well-Doing](#)