

Welcome to New Hope Church

A Christ-centered community for all peoples, moving toward Jesus and taking others with us.

NEW HERE?

We'd love to get to know you.
Fill out the New Here form.



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



SUMMER FAMILY NIGHTS

2ND & 4TH SUNDAYS // JUNE–AUGUST // 3:30–5PM

newhopechurchmn.org/families



SUNDAYS | 10:30AM | MINISTRY CENTER

newhopechurchmn.org/latinos

GIVE ONLINE

NEED PRAYER?

NEWS & GIVING REPORT

Parent's Night Out

Friday, June 25, 6–9pm, Main Campus. Enjoy a night out—we'll watch the kids! For birth–grade 5. Space is limited. Proceeds benefit the Alaska Family Ministry Trip. Register at newhopechurchmn.org/families.

Summer Family Nights

2nd & 4th Sundays, June–August, 3:30–5pm, Main Campus. For the whole church family to have fun and make memories. Theme coincides with the parables series with an Olympic twist. No registration. Visit newhopechurchmn.org/families.

Host a Neighborhood Day Camp

Host a backyard outreach for kids this summer. Children's provides training, curriculum and resources—you lead the fun! Visit newhopechurchmn.org/families.

NHC en Español

Sundays, 10:30am, Ministry Center. Worship with our Spanish-speaking community. Volunteer with the tech or hospitality team. Email latino@newhopechurchmn.org for more information.

Ways to Give

Thank you for your generous giving to New Hope Church. You can give through the NHC App, by check or online at newhopechurchmn.org/give.

Career Opportunities

Use your gifts, talents and skills to bless NHC. We are currently looking for funeral coordinator/assistants. See career opportunities at newhopechurchmn.org/careers.

Get the most current information at
newhopechurchmn.org



newhopechurchmn.org | 763-533-2449

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The Persistent Widow Luke 18:1–8

June 20, 2021

CONNECT

1. Have you ever persistently prayed for something and seen the Lord come through with a tangible response? What was that like? How have you felt when it seemed God has not responded to your persistent prayers? In what ways has persistent prayer changed you, regardless of what God's responses seem to be?

CELEBRATE

2. Carefully read Luke 18:1–8. What tensions arise for you as you read through the text? Why? Talk about this among your group.
3. What could be Jesus' reason for frontloading the parable with the statement to pray and not lose heart? Why might this matter?
4. At first glance it could appear that the judge in the parable represents God, while the widow represents us. What common ground do the judge and God share and what are the points of contrast? Read 1 Peter 3:12 and Psalm 66:16–20 for further insight.
5. Zechariah 7:9–10 highlights what scholars call “the quartet of the vulnerable”—the widow, the orphan, the immigrant and the poor—exhorting that we must “administer true justice, show mercy and compassion to one another.” In what ways might the widow in Luke 18:1–8 be vulnerable, provoking her cry for “justice against [her] adversary?” See Luke 20:45–47 for further perspective. How is God growing your sensitivity to the quartet of the vulnerable?
6. In Luke 18:5, the judge desires the widow no longer “beat me down” by her persistence. In the original language, the phrase is a boxing term where someone is beaten black and blue or given a black eye. What might this suggest about the fierce nature of the widow's persistence with the judge? How does this influence your own persistence in prayer?
7. What obstacles exist that keep you from being persistent in prayer? Process these together.

CONTRIBUTE

8. It is reasonable to assume that our persistence in prayer should reflect the heart of God. What matters are you relentless in prayer about before God, reflecting His heart and purposes? Share some with the group.
9. How are you praying—co-laboring with God—for those God may call to redemption and into kingdom citizenship? With what urgency are you talking with God and how might you develop that urgency, especially in light of Jesus' return (Luke 18:8)?