

SERMON OUTLINE

PERSISTING
July 18, 2021

Jesus loves persistence

Almost all Christ's parables include a process that requires time, patience, wisdom, and the relentless pursuit of a goal. We must keep trusting and obeying Him, and He clearly values persistence itself.

Luke 11:5-8 & 18:1-8
Matthew 13:34-35 & 25:1-13

We must put God and others first

When we focus on getting our own needs and desires met, spirituality, marriage, family, church, and serving others don't meet anyone's needs. All of the relationships God created require intimacy, self-sacrifice, and teamwork.

2 Chronicles 7:14, Luke 11:9-13

Giving up ruins everything

The only two ways to guarantee failure are *not trying* and *quitting*. When we quit, we forfeit all the progress we've already made and all the progress we could keep making.

Galatians 6:9

Faith, hope, and love create persistence

When we truly build our lives on Christ's teachings and genuinely focus on God and others, persistence is more of a natural byproduct than an additional task to complete. We keep digging deeper, trying harder, and refusing to give up because we *can't* go back to being shallow and selfish.

**1 Corinthians 13, Romans 12,
Matthew 25:31-46**