

## #METOORECKONING WORKSHOP

### "THE PERSISTENT WIDOW"



#### **THE PERSISTENT WIDOW — chapter 4, pp. 83-107**

#### **Luke 18:1-8 — the dynamics of justice in 3 sentences**

1. This story is a parable told by Jesus. How does that influence your reading of it?
2. The parable is summarized before it's told — a noteworthy, singular occurrence in the Bible. The summary is: Pray always. Is that summary adequate? Why might the writer of Luke chosen to offer this summary?
3. What is a widow like, usually? What do the role and characteristics of this particular widow tell us about the pursuit of justice?
4. What is a judge like, usually? What do the role and characteristics of this particular judge tell us about the pursuit of justice?
5. What other female protagonists in scripture come to mind, and how does this inform our reading?
6. The widow asks for justice against her “opponent.” Does this word have any particular resonance or application to the pursuit of justice?
7. Verse 5 has some textual variants that may be significant, as they suggest that the widow could give the judge “a black eye.” What is significant about a black eye?
8. What is the judge's reason for granting the widow's request? Is this surprising or unsurprising?
9. Think about what you know about Jesus' parables. In what ways is this typical or atypical?
10. How does this story help us understand the dynamics of power in a patriarchal system?