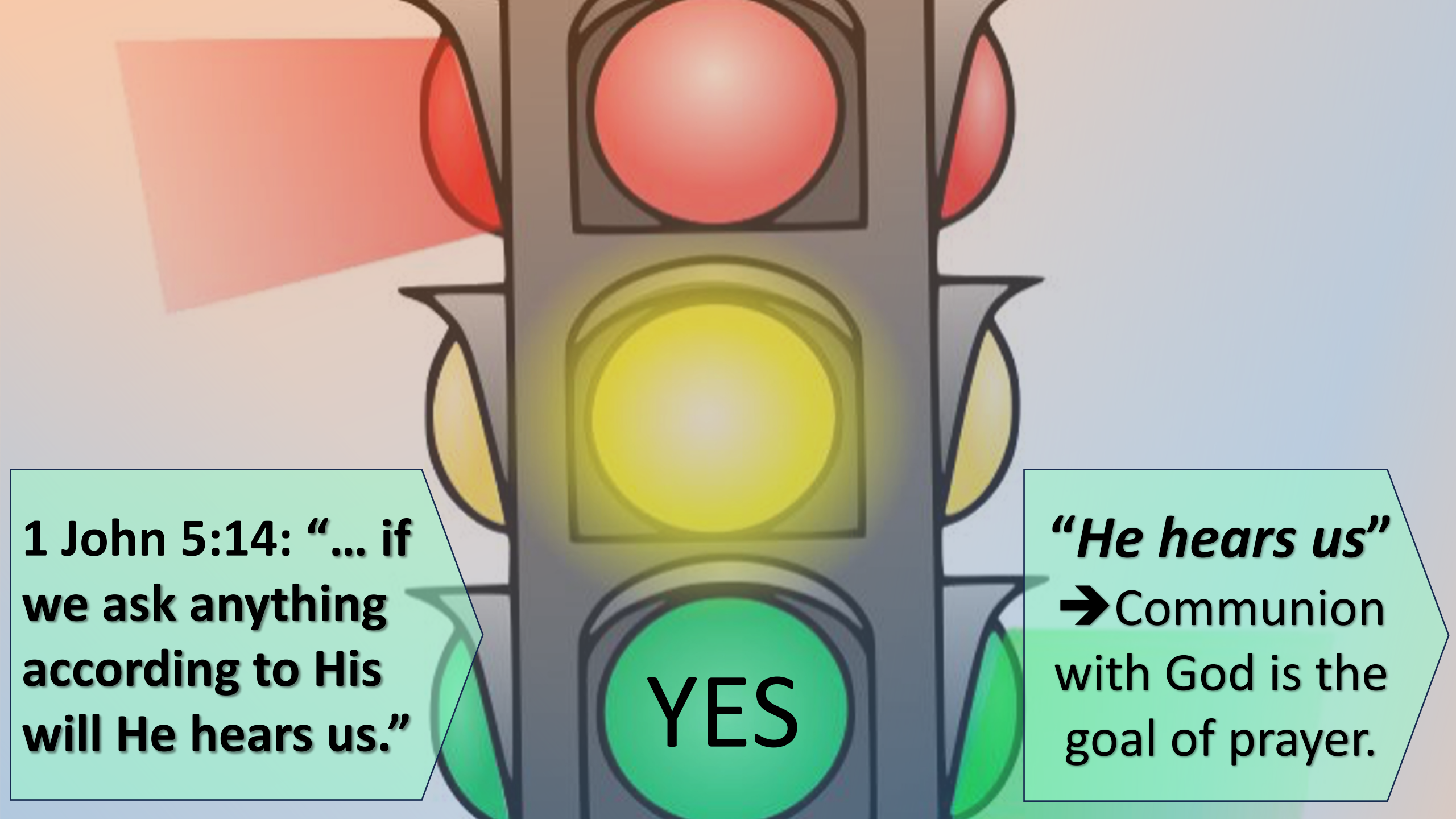


***Pray always and do not lose heart***

1 Sam 1:11-16; Luke 18:1-8

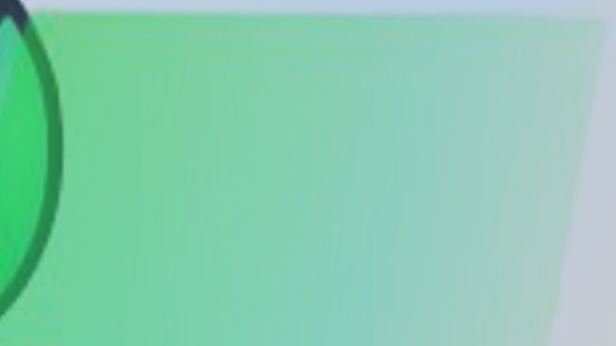


**1 John 5:14: “... if we ask anything according to His will He hears us.”**

**YES**

***“He hears us”***  
→ Communion with God is the goal of prayer.

**Not  
according  
to His will.**





- **Silence**
- **Yes, but not yet**

- **---**



**WAIT**

**God always acts in the fullness of His own timing.**

- 
- **The 2 characters**
  - **The judge's response**
  - **The lesson for us**

# The 2 characters



The widow



The judge

# The judge's response



- **Eventually he relented**

*V5: “---yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.”*



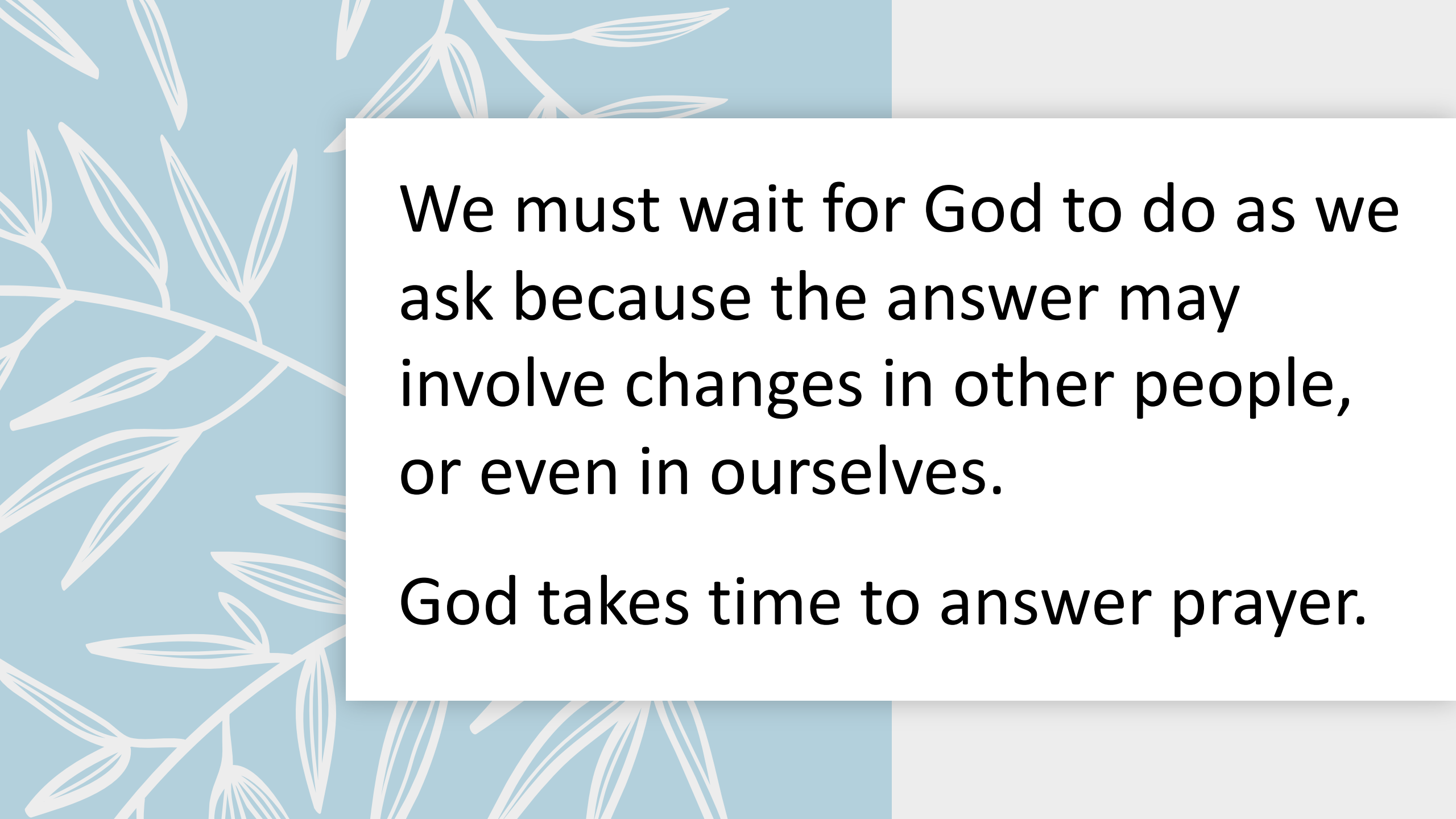
# The lesson for us

That we ought  
*always to pray,*  
*and not lose heart.*



What is Jesus teaching us?






We must wait for God to do as we ask because the answer may involve changes in other people, or even in ourselves.

God takes time to answer prayer.

# St Augustine, Bishop of Hippo



*God denied his mother once  
in order to grant her what  
she had prayed for always.*



*“Hannah wanted only a son,  
**but God wanted more.**  
He wanted a prophet,  
and a saviour, and a ruler for His  
people.”*



An aerial view of the Earth from space, showing the continents and oceans in shades of blue and white. The text is overlaid on the image.

***“... when the Son of Man comes,  
will He find faith on earth?”***

**Luke 18:8**

# **Faith defined as:**

- **Knowing what God wants us to do**
- **Obeying whatever, He shows us to do**
- **Trusting Him to do what we cannot do, in His way and in His time.**

*Loren Cunningham*

**As Jesus has taught us,**

**May we pray always and not lose heart!**

**Too often, we lose heart and stop praying**

**at the very point**

**where we should most strongly hold on.**

**When we stop praying,**

**we stop having faith in God.**