

**Theme: Persistence in Prayer.** The Bible portion for today talks about Moses' persistence in prayer.

How much prayer about an issue would mean persistence in prayer?

You would surely say that I am persistent in prayer if I prayed about an issue for one hour for seven days (1 hour X 7 days). Most of us fall asleep if someone prayed for 10 minutes. I did that as a child and I see it now. In a busy day, we sometimes give our self grace by just praying about an issue for a few times for a few seconds each (few times X few seconds) [at least we prayed / or had a family prayer –

and we check mark ☒ the prayer box]

In Deuteronomy 9:25-29, we see Moses talks about how he laid prostrate and prayed to God for 40 days and nights. He did not eat or drink during this time. Is this persistence? Most would call him crazy. Moses was very concerned about God's wrath (<sup>13</sup> And the LORD said to me, "I have seen this people, and they are a stiff-necked people indeed! <sup>14</sup> Let me alone, so that I may destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven. And I will make you into a nation stronger and more numerous than they."). Moses, who left the life in a palace to fight for his people was finally being asked by God to lead his people out of Egypt. After leading the people out of Egypt on way to the Promised Land, he felt burdened for his people even though the people had disobeyed God (and Moses thought the people would stone him). We see Moses interceding for his people. God promised Moses a stronger nation without the "stiff necked" people but Moses persisted in prayer before God for his people.

Lay prostrate - Bowing in respect  
- Submissive gesture  
- As a worship  
- We declare we are a nobody in front of the person we prostrate

How many people are in the picture on the side?  
Don't miss the "nobody" in the picture who is lying prostrate in front of God interceding for his people.



Centuries later, Jesus left heaven and stepped into this world as a baby. He came to intercede for you and me. The pain was so much that he went to Getsemane to pray about it and submitting to God's will ("My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." & "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.")

This Lenten season let us make sometime and effort to pray regularly. Once we are regular with our prayer, let us grow further by being persistent. **When we grow closer to God, our prayers will reflect the will of God.**