

# The Promise of Perseverance

Matthew 7:7-12



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## Sermon Notes

Matthew 7:7–12 (ESV)

<sup>7</sup>“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

<sup>8</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

<sup>9</sup>Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone?

<sup>10</sup>Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent?

<sup>11</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

<sup>12</sup>“So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

**September 14, 2025**

**(Answer key located on the last page)**

**Main Question:** What constitutes " \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ " in prayer?

**I. \_\_\_\_\_ with Confidence (Matthew 7:7a)**

**Key Verse:** "Ask, and it will be \_\_\_\_\_ to you..."

The Greek word "aiteo" means \_\_\_\_\_ recognition  
of need with genuine \_\_\_\_\_ that God wants to help.

**Application - The Three Request Rule:**

Instead of "God, bless my day," pray \_\_\_\_\_ requests.  
Write them down, return to them throughout the day, trusting God  
hears and will respond.

For example:

1. "Give me patience at work"
2. "Wisdom for this job decision"
3. "Love for my family under stress"

**II. \_\_\_\_\_ with Determination and Persistence  
(Matthew 7:7b-c)**

**Key Verse:** "...seek, and you will \_\_\_\_\_; knock, and it  
will be \_\_\_\_\_ to you."

The Greek word "zētēō" means \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_ pursuit.

**Three Actions for Seeking:**

1. Reading \_\_\_\_\_
2. Watching \_\_\_\_\_
3. Seeking wise \_\_\_\_\_

**Application - The 90-Day Challenge:** Pick three ongoing concerns:

- One \_\_\_\_\_ struggle
- One \_\_\_\_\_ situation
- One \_\_\_\_\_ challenge

Pray about all three \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ days.

### III. \_\_\_\_\_ God's Love (Matthew 7:9-12)

**Key Verse:** "So whatever you wish that others would do to you,  
\_\_\_\_\_ also to them..."

The word " \_\_\_\_\_ " connects the Golden Rule directly to answered prayer.

#### **The Process:**

1. We persistently \_\_\_\_\_ (asking, seeking, knocking).
2. We experience God's \_\_\_\_\_ firsthand.
3. We naturally want to show that same \_\_\_\_\_ to others.

**Application - The 24-Hour Response Rule:** Every time you recognize God answering prayer, immediately identify \_\_\_\_\_ way to show similar care to someone else within \_\_\_\_\_ hours.

#### PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. What specific area of your life needs persistent prayer right now?
2. How has God shown faithfulness to you in the past that should encourage your current prayers?
3. When God answers your prayers, how can you "pay it forward" to others?

## Answer Key

**Main Question:** "persistent pursuit"

### **I. REQUEST with Confidence**

given, humble, hope, specific  
| obedience

### **II. SEEK with Determination and Persistence**

find, opened, intensive, purposeful, Scripture, circumstances, counsel, personal, family, work, daily, 90

### **III. RECIPROCATE God's Love**

do, "SO", pray, character, love, one, 24

#### **The Good News**

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)

#### **The Bad News**

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,  
(Romans 3:23)

#### **The Ugly News**

For the wages of sin is death, ... (Romans 6:23a)

#### **The Great News**

... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
(Romans 6:23a )

#### **Guess What?**

You can become a Christian right now and experience salvation and the gift of eternal life through God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ! Simply Pray this Prayer Right Now! **"God thank you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins.**

**Thank you for receiving what Jesus did for me on the cross as payment for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. Right now I accept Jesus into my heart and ask that he become my Savior and Lord! Amen!"**

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. (Romans 10:9–10)

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