

Recap from
last week's study:

Trusting God's Justice
Matthew 7:-16

- Releasing control of consequences for your offender.
- Embracing growth by singular focus on God..



MATT.
7:7-12

PERSISTANCE UNTIL HE ANSWERS

7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

9 “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! 12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Cross-Reference

- Luke 11:5-13
- Romans 8:15
- Ephesians 3:12
- Hebrews 4:16
- 1 John 5:14



LET'S EXPLORE MATTHEW 7:7-12

Observe:

- **Ask** - Strong's Concordance Greek 154 - Αίτεῖτε - Aiteite
 - (use the book on page 9 in the Greek section or BibleHub.com to look it up)
- **Seek** - Strong's Concordance Greek 2212 ζητεῖτε - zēteite
 - (use the book on page 109 in the Greek section or BibleHub.com to look it up)
- **Knock** - Strong's Concordance Greek 2925 κρούετε - krouete
 - (use the book on page 146 in the Greek section or BibleHub.com to look it up)
- **Everyone** in verse 8 - Strong's Concordance Greek 3956 means = All, the whole, every kind of. No exclusions.
- **Verse 9** gives four contrasted examples of gifts. What are those?
 - Identify times in your life when it felt like God was giving you something harmful? What did it turn out like in the end?
- Read Luke 11:8 again. Note that Jesus says "needs" and not "wants".
- Revisit 1 John 5:14 but read through verse 17.
 - How does this passage reflect Matthew 7:12's *Golden Rule*?

Interpret:

- What do you believe all of these verses mean?
- What is God speaking to you personally through this study?
- Read a trusted commentary and compare to your interpretation.



NOW, LET'S READ THE AFTER-SUMMARY TOGETHER

In Matthew 7:7-12, Jesus encourages us to ask, seek, and knock—progressively persistent - showing us that God is open to us when we reach out with faith and intention. He uses everyday images to help us see God as a loving parent who listens and responds when we bring our needs forward. This message is mirrored in Luke 11:5-13, where Jesus tells a story of a friend persistently knocking at midnight. The friend eventually gets help, not just because of his need but because he keeps asking. Jesus is telling us to be persistent and confident when we approach God, trusting that He's listening even when we don't see immediate results.

In all of these passages and throughout the New Testament, we're reminded that we can come to God as His children, with a sense of closeness and trust. Romans 8:15 reassures us that we can call God "Abba, Father," bringing a sense of warmth and intimacy to our relationship with Him. Ephesians 3:12 and Hebrews 4:16 add that we can approach God with confidence, knowing that we don't have to be formal or hesitant. When we bring our needs, frustrations, and hopes to God, we're invited into a relationship where we're seen and heard deeply—more than just what we're asking for.

1 John 5:14-17 echoes this message by reminding us that our confidence in asking in alignment with God's will, that we are heard. It's not just about getting what we think we want but about discovering God's perspective on our lives but also showing mercy to others in praying God to deliver them from their sins, the way we would want others to do for us (Matthew 7:12). As we ask, seek, and knock, we grow in understanding and trust, knowing that God is working for our good. The act of reaching out to Him changes us, helping us to rely on His timing and guidance, which is often better than what we originally planned.



APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- How would your perspective on prayer change if you truly saw God as a loving parent?
 - In what areas of your life could you bring more persistence and confidence when you ask, seek, and knock?
- Are there times when you approach God with hesitation, afraid that your needs or concerns are too small or unimportant?
 - How could remembering that God **invites** you to come to Him “boldly” (as Hebrews 4:16 says) help you feel more open and honest in your conversations with Him?
- Thinking about 1 John 5:14, how can you begin to align your desires with God’s will rather than focusing solely on specific outcomes?
 - What might it look like to trust God’s timing and purpose in a situation you’re currently facing?

Closing Prayer...

Heavenly Father, thank You for inviting me to come to You with all my needs, questions, and hopes. I’m grateful that You are a loving, attentive parent who listens and cares deeply about every part of my life. Help me to approach You with confidence and honesty, trusting that You are always ready to respond, even when I can’t see the answers right away. Give me the persistence to keep asking, seeking, and knocking, knowing that You are working in ways I might not yet understand.

Lord, align my heart with Your will and give me the patience to wait on Your timing. Help me to see that Your wisdom is greater than my own and that Your plans for me are good. Guide me to trust You more fully and to release my own expectations, surrendering to Your purpose. Thank You for being a faithful Father who holds me close and leads me forward in love. In Jesus name, amen.