



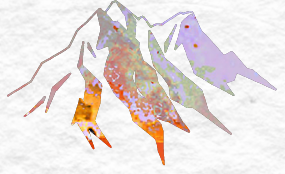
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Pursuing God

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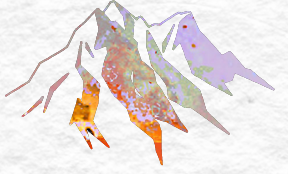


## Matthew 7:7-11 ESV

<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!



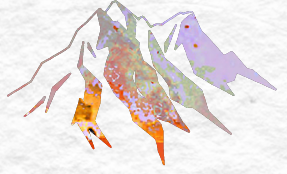
# 1. A Continual Pursuit



## Matthew 7:7-8

<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.





## Matthew 6:33

“But **seek** first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

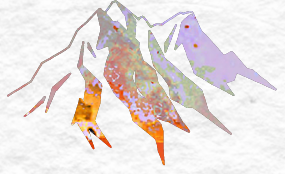




“The seeking of the Kingdom of God is the chief business of the  
Christian life.”

**JONATHAN EDWARDS**



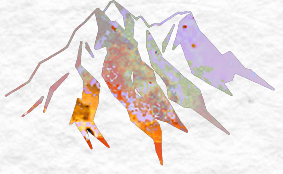


## Luke 11:5-8

<sup>5</sup> And He said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, <sup>6</sup> for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; <sup>7</sup> and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs.



# 2. Man's Good Gifts

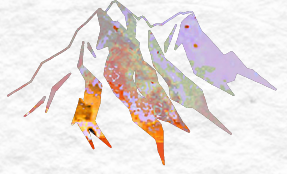


## Matthew 7:9-11a

<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”



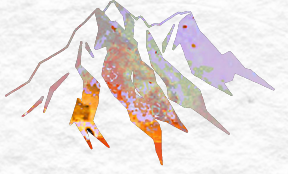




## 1 Timothy 5:8

“But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”



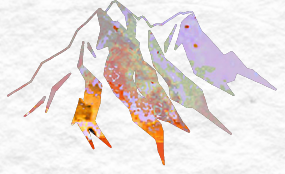


## Romans 3:23

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."



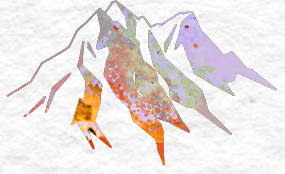
# 3. The Much More Giver



## Matthew 7:11b

<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!"






## Galatians 4:4-7

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might **receive adoption as sons**. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying “**Abba! Father!**” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.”

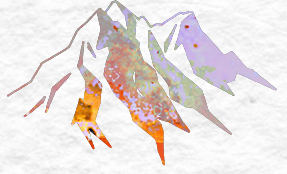




You sum up the whole of New Testament religion if you describe it as the knowledge of God as one's holy Father. If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all...."Father" is the Christian name for God.

**J.I. PACKER**

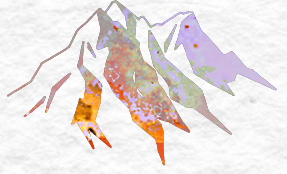




## Matthew 6:30

“But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not **much more** clothe you, O you of little faith?”

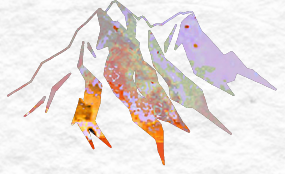




## Romans 3:32

“He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously **give us all things?**”



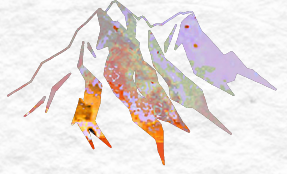


## Ephesians 3:20-21

<sup>20</sup> Now to Him who is able to do **far more abundantly** than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.








## Luke 11:13

“If you then, who are evil, know how to go give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the **Holy Spirit** to those who ask Him!”






“But God’s redemption-gifts are different. God does not bestow salvation on all alike, but ‘bestows His riches upon all who call on Him. For, ‘everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.’” The same applies to post-salvation blessings, the ‘good things’ which Jesus says the Father gives His children.

**JOHN STOTT**

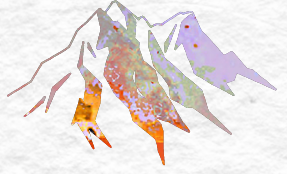




It is not material blessings that He is referring to here, but spiritual blessings—daily forgiveness, deliverance from evil, peace, the increase of faith, hope and love, in fact the indwelling work of ‘the Holy Spirit’ as the comprehensive blessing of God, which is how Luke renders ‘good things’. For these gifts we must certainly pray.”

**JOHN STOTT**

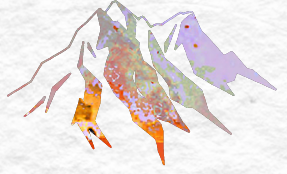




## Matthew 6:8

"...for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him."






## James 4:2b

"You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask."






“I understand this to mean that God loves to be pursued! God loves to be asked, repeatedly, over and over, without fear on our part that we are nagging Him or labouring in unbelief. God is pleased to draw near and pour out His power and do wonderful, even miraculous, things when His people persevere in prayer, asking again and again that the Spirit work in people’s hearts, bodies, souls, and minds.”

**SAM STORMS**

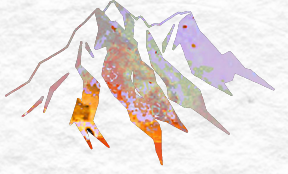




"Come, my soul, thy suit prepare;  
Jesus loves to answer prayer;  
He Himself has bid thee pray,  
Therefore will not say thee nay.  
Thou art coming to a King;  
Large petitions with thee bring;  
For His grace and power are such,  
None can ever ask too much."

**JOHN NEWTON**



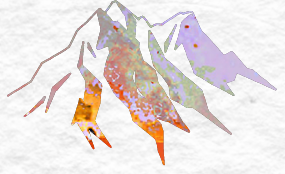


## Hebrews 9:11-14

“But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.



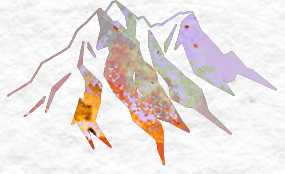




## Hebrews 9:11-14

For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how **much more** will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God”





## Hebrews 4:14-16

“Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

