

ASKING, SEEKING, KNOCKING and the GOLDEN RULE

Matthew 7.7-12

Central Idea: *We should pray because we have a Heavenly Father who wants to give good gifts to His children.*

Matthew 7 ... Our Relationship to ...

- **Fellow Disciples (1-5)** – *stop being judgmental*
- **Opponents of Christ's Kingdom (6)** – *be discerning*

Our Relationship to Our Heavenly Father – *KEEP PRAYING (7-11)*

- Command and Promise (7-8)

Why does God want us to be persistent in prayer?

- Illustration (9-11)

Lessons ...

1. To receive, we must ask, seek and knock. We must pray.
2. Here is encouragement to pray – our heavenly Father will answer.

3. We don't we pray because we fail to see ourselves and God properly.

4. What are you asking God for?

Our Relationship to Everyone – *TREAT PEOPLE the WAY YOU WANT to be TREATED (12)*

Questions for Personal Reflection or Group Discussion

1. Begin by answering a fundamental question about prayer: *Why* do you pray? List as many reasons as possible (obligation, want, etc.).
2. Read and discuss two parables Jesus told on prayer in Lk 11.1-13 and Lk 18.1-8. How do these two parables complement what Jesus teaches in Mt 7? What additional insight do we gain?
3. Discuss the two reasons Pastor Chuck suggested we don't pray/ask: failure to see ourselves and God properly. Are there other reasons we don't pray?
4. When have you had an answer to prayer after a long time of asking, seeking and knocking?
5. What are you or what do you need to begin asking God for right now?
6. Thinking of the last few days and your encounters with others, how would you apply the golden rule to all of these different interactions with people?

Community Bible Church
Charles Tschetter, Lead Pastor

This outline is provided to assist you in understanding and applying today's message. *Asking, Seeking, Knocking and the Golden Rule* is the twentieth message in a series on the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7. This message can be listened to or downloaded at cbcomaha.org. You may also stream and download CBC podcasts from itunes or google play.



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Our Relationship to ...

- Fellow Disciples (1-5) – *stop being judgmental*
- Opponents of Christ's Kingdom (6) – *be discerning*
- Our Heavenly Father (7-11) – *keep praying*
- Everyone (12) – *treat people the way you want to be treated*

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Our Relationship to ...

- **Our Heavenly Father (7-11) – *keep praying***
command and promise (7-8)
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We must pray.**



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because our heavenly Father will answer.**



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What are you asking God for?

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- **Everyone (12) – *treat people the way you want to be treated***