

# The Gospel of Matthew

***“Ask, Seek & Knock”***

**Matthew 7:7-12**

## Matthew 7:7-12

“Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you.

For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it shall be opened.

Or what man is there among you, when his son shall ask him for a loaf, will give him a stone?

Or if he shall ask for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he?

## Matthew 7:7-12

“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!

Therefore, however you want people to treat you, so treat them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

## Matthew 7:7-12

### 7:12 – Summary Conclusion

➤ The “Golden Rule”: *“treat others as you want to be treated”*

- the most basic principle of kingdom righteousness which summarizes the Old Testament
- a call to use our strong, innate sense of self-love as the measure of our treatment of others

## Ask, Seek & Knock

### 1. The Necessity of Persistent Prayer

- Jesus commands and invites us to ask as a prerequisite to receiving
- Jesus emphasizes persistence in prayer – *“keep” asking, seeking, knocking*

## Ask, Seek & Knock

### Why Pray?

- God has ordained to make our prayers real causes of real events
- Prayer is an expression of dependence on and trust in the Father

## **Ask, Seek & Knock**

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### **2. The Effectiveness of Persistent Prayer**

- Jesus promises that we will receive when we ask the Father
- Qualification – the Father delights to give “what is good” to those who ask Him

## **Ask, Seek & Knock**

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### **3. The Nature of God as Father**

- like earthly fathers, God delights to give good gifts to His children
- unlike earthly fathers, God always gives what is good without limit

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*He will never give you anything which will turn out to be harmful to you*