**Teach us to Pray - Matt. 7:7 – 8**

**Focal Truth: Pray persistently asking God the Father to meet your needs**

How long do you ask God for needs in your life?

Do you every give up asking God for your needs in prayer?

*Jesus teaches His disciples to pray for their needs with persistence for God waiting for Him to answer*

**Observations**

1. **Pray – admitting your neediness to God the Father – 7:7 -8**

*Ask and it shall be given, seek, and you will find, and to him who knocks it will be opened*

**Our needs for the it need, our needs for finding things, our needs for closed things**

1. Needs for daily bread – 6:11
2. Needs for forgiveness – 6:12
3. Needs for guidance – 6:13
4. Needs for deliverance from evil 6:13
5. Needs for relief from worry - 6:25 – 34
6. Needs for living as a disciple of Christ – Christ’s demands of disciples in the sermon on the mount
* Practicing the beatitudes – 5:1 – 12
* Living as the salt & light of the world 5:13 -16
* Living in right relationships with others 5: 21 – 48
	+ Anger toward another – 5:22
	+ Restoring broken relationships – 5:23
	+ Avoiding lust – 5:28
	+ Avoiding committing adultery – 5:32
	+ Keeping commitments – 5:37
	+ Refusing to retaliate – 5:39 – 40
	+ Give to whoever asks – 5: 42
	+ Love & pray for your enemies – 5:44
	+ Be perfect as Your Heavenly Father is perfect – 5:48
* Practicing the habits of righteousness: giving, praying & fasting in secret – 6: 1
* Seek first God’s kingdom & righteousness – 6:33
* Living without judgment of others – 7: 1 -6

**Consider**

* Every disciple hears Christ demands for disciples & cries help me Lord! I am needy!
* Christ’s demands for disciples reveal our need for His help!
* Disciples of Christ must grow in their practices of discipleship
1. **Pray – persistently asking God the Father to supply your needs – 7:7 – 8**
2. Pray with persistence
* *Ask & it will be given to you*
* *Seek & you will find*
* *Knock & it will be opened to you*

**Asking, seeking and knocking are all terms teaching persistence in prayer**

1. Pray persistently like the man who asked his friend for bread for a guest at midnight

Luke 11: 5 – 8 – *I tell you he will get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs*

1. Pray persistently like the woman begging the judge for help – Lk. 18:5

*He told them a parable to show them at all times they ought to pray & not to lose heart….yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out*

1. Pray with assured persistence
* *Everyone who asks receives, he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened*
1. Pray with confident persistence
* *How much more will Your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!*

 **Consider**

* God the Father hears his children’s request for needs

Matt. 7:9 – 10 – *or what man is there among you who, when His son asks for a loaf will give him a stone? Or, if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake?*

* God the Father can be trusted to give what is best to His children who ask!
1. **Pray - remembering the Lord’s promises that God the Father will meet our needs**
2. Matt. 6:8 – *Your heavenly Father knows what you need before you ask Him*
3. Matt. 6:32 – *for your Heavenly Father knows that you need all these things*
4. Matt. 7:11 – *how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!*
5. Luke 11:13 – *how much more will your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?*

To have the Holy Spirit is to have everything we need! Every grace – every gift – every

1. Matt. 6:30 – *if God clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith!*
2. Matt. 21:22 – *and all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive*.
3. 2 Pet 1:3 – *God the Father has given us everything that pertains to life & godliness*

 **Consider**

* There is never a time when God the Father does not know our needs
* God the Father always supplies much more than we need
* Believers pray believing the promise that God’s the Father meets all their needs

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. God’s children pray persistently to their Heavenly Father for all their needs
2. Ask God the Father for what He knows you need
3. Ask God the Father for what the good things are from the Holy Spirit
4. How much more God the Father gives to His children who ask!

**Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks it will be opened**

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**