

THE POWER OF PERSISTENT PRAYER

November 23, 2014 Matthew 7:7-11 by Bob Branch
The Truly Liberated Life, Part 22

MAIN IDEA: God invites us to engage him and his generosity through a life of continual prayer... asking, seeking and knocking.

⁹ “You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? ¹⁰ Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! ¹¹ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him. **Matthew 7:9-11** NLT

1. Prevailing prayer is built on the GOODNESS, GENEROSITY and RESPONSIVENESS of God toward us.

“Taste and see that the LORD is good” **Psalm 34:8**
(84:11; 145:16)

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.” **1 Corinthians 2:9** NLT

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” **James 1:17**

Our thoughts about God are the single greatest influencer on how we pray. (who you think God is)

What do you believe about God? What he’s like. Who he is? How he responds?

⁷ “Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. **Matthew 7:7-8** NLT

2. Pray with PERSISTENCE.

“Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.” **Luke 18:1**

“pray without ceasing” **1 Thessalonians 5:17** ESV

P.U.S.H.

3. Prayer as a LIFESTYLE.

“My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working... the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does.” **John 5:17, 19-20**

Where are you in all this, Lord? What are you doing here? What do you want done?

4. Pray BOLDLY.

“your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” **Matthew 6:10**

“I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.” **Luke 11:5-8**