

Prayer

Being Relentless, Unwavering, With A Single-mind, When I Pray

Today: We need to be **relentless, unwavering**, having a **single**-mind when we pray.

Jesus gave us an example of this kind of prayer:

Luke 11:1

Question: If the Son of God felt a need to pray, should we also be a people of prayer?

- One of the disciples said, teach us to pray.

Luke 11:2a

²So He said to them, "When you pray, say..."

Drop down to Luke 11:5 now and this still is a response to "Lord, teach us to pray"

Luke 11:5-7

Luke 11:8 – look at what Jesus says

Luke 11:9-12

Luke 11:13 evil = **sin**

¹³If you then, being evil (**sinful**), know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father (who is not **sinful**) give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

1. How much **more** will your Heavenly Father give you.

In this chapter, Jesus uses three terms or words:

- **Ask**
- **Seek**
- **Knock**

Let me say something in the beginning:

I don't think these three words are different **levels** of prayer for the same thing.

For instance, if we ask and ask and ask, it doesn't seem like God is answering or responding → so what we do now is seek **another** solution → then, if God still doesn't come through, the ultimate is to begin **knocking**.

* Matter of fact – God shows us what these three words are referring to in Matthew 6.

What I'm going to try to show you are three categories of:

Relentless, unwavering, single-mindedness
categories of prayer.

2 Corinthians 1:20

So ask, seek and knock are three kinds of **determined** prayer

A. **Ask** – what do we ask **for**?

There are four things you ask for:

- God's **purpose**
- God's **provision**
- God's **pardon**
- God's **protection**

2. Remember this, there is another “P” in this, the Lord's prayer starts with **praise** and ends with **praise**.

Purpose

Matthew 6:10

* Pray for My **will** every day.

3. Each day, I take time and say, God, I come before You in Jesus' name, asking that the Holy Spirit would show me **Your** will in my life today on earth as it is in Heaven for my **family** today.

Second:

B. **Provision** – pray for and what God's **provision** is for you today.

Matthew 6:11

4. I believe many of us are missing God's provision because we have **man's** provision.

- Jesus is telling us don't be satisfied with the provision of your **hand** only.

How many men in this house ask God everyday for His provision for their families?

Here is the third thing:

C. God's **pardon** – receiving the **forgiveness** of God.

Matthew 6:12

- Isn't it great to get forgiveness? All you have to do is **ask!**

Colossians 2:14

5. You don't have to **fulfill** requirements to get forgiveness, just **ask.**

Last:

D. God's **protection**

Matthew 6:13a

¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one...

Question: Do you ask God for His protection over you and your family? **Everyday** ask this.

6. I believe there is no demon in hell that can **stand up** to the power of Jesus Christ.

- Some say, I have prayed and it didn't work.

My statement to you – you don't want to be **free**.

God's power is available but you do not **ask**.

James 4:2

Matthew 6:25-27

In other words – don't **worry**

Matthew 6:31

Matthew 6:32a

³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek...

Or I'll add – they do not **ask** for

Look what it says:

Matthew 6:32b

³² ... For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

He is referring to Gentiles – meaning those who don't **know** God.

Church: don't you worry about what you eat, drink, or wear – just **ask**.

7. The Gentiles, those who don't **know** God, have to seek for **provision** (purpose, provision, forgiveness, and protection)

Matthew 6:7-8

- The Father knows what you need **before** you ask.

Again – Church, you do not have to seek these things.

Let me clarify this: you do have to **work**. The Bible says, “If you don't work, you don't eat”

Look again at the end of verse 8:

Matthew 6:8b

⁸... For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

Here is the religious interpretation: Well, God knows what I need, why should I ask?

8. God knows what you need **before** the situation, you have to **ask**.
- So the first act of prayer is we **ask** God to meet our natural and spiritual needs (emotional, physical, spiritual needs)

Question: So if we ask God to meet our needs, then what do we seek?

Matthew 6:33

9. As Christians, what do we seek? We seek **God** and His **righteousness**.

God designed prayer so we can get our **needs** met.

- Next level is to get to know Him, to know God by **seeking** Him.

Psalm 27:4-5

10. God designed prayer not just to get our needs met, but so we can get to **know** God.

- Ask for God's **hand** and seek His **face**.

Listen closely: You're not seeking His provision or protection, you seek and know **Him**.

Jeremiah 29:10

Jeremiah 29:11-13

This is ask and seek:

- Ask for **provision**
- Seek and know **God**.

** Most Christians do not know the **Person** of Jesus Christ.

First level is **ask**

Second level is **seek**

The third level is **knock** – what does this mean?

What are doors referred to in the Bible?

1 Corinthians 16:9

- Effective door – a door of **ministry**

2 Corinthians 2:12

- Door was opened – **ministry**

Colossians 4:2-3

²Continue earnestly in prayer (that is **asking**), being vigilant in it with thanksgiving (that's **seeking**); ³meanwhile praying also for us (that is **knocking**), that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains,

- Doors of **ministry**, doors of **opportunity** to minister or touch others.

When you start praying:

- First level – you **ask** about your **needs**
- Second level – you **seek** and know Him in a **personal** way.
- Third level – you **knock** and doors open wide to touch **others**.

Why – you **know** God and what He **hurts** for.

What breaks His heart are people that don't **know** Him.

Once you get to this level – you still ask and seek, but your heart **breaks** for the person sitting next to you, and or who you work with – leading them to **Christ**.