

## **Matthew 7:7-12**

### **The Benefits of Prayer**

#### **Introduction:**

We know besides the preaching and teaching ministry of our Lord Jesus, there also was the great deal of time He spent in prayer. Jesus prayed throughout His ministry in the temple, while He traveled with His disciples, while He went to the garden of Gethsemane and when He went off to the mountains. Luke 6:12. Jesus also spent a lot of time encouraging us to pray and how to pray. (Matt. 5:9-13) Prayer should be a diligent part of our lives. Luke 18:1 “Men ought always to pray, and not faint.” The great apostle Paul would encourage us: “Pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

#### **I. Prayer’s Promises**

##### **A. Misconceptions about prayer**

1. No magical formula’s (Abraham – Heb. 11:8; John 16:32)
2. Psychological treatment

##### **B. In our experience**

1. Shut doors – Matt. 6:10
2. Gethsemane’s prayer – Turn To: Matthew 26:36-45

##### **C. The theme of judgment – Matt. 7, Rom. 12:3**

1. Why our prayers are not answered?
2. Why we must meet certain conditions

#### **II. Prayer’s Method**

##### **A. Employing the methods of prayer:**

1. We must realize our need – Romans 7,
2. We must understand that a praying disciple does not know where to find what he is looking for. Jam. 4:3; Rom. 8:26
3. We must be persistent in our prayers - **Turn To: Luke 11;5-10; & Luke 18:1-8**; cf. Acts 2:42; Phil. 3:13-14

##### **B. Illustrated Truth v.9-10**

1. The doctrine of God being our Father.
2. The stark contrast – v.11 “being evil” and “being holy”

#### **Finally:**

#### **How does God become our Father?**

1. *God sent His Son into the world in order that He might be received but not all receive Him. John 1:11,12*
2. *God cannot become your Father until you are born into His family – John 3:3; I Pet. 1:23*
3. *God cannot become your Father until you are transferred into the kingdom of His beloved Son – Col. 1:13*

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