

**Cultivating  
a Christian Character**

***Studies in  
The Sermon on the Mount  
Matthew chapters 5-7***

***Persistent Praying  
will be rewarded  
Matthew 7.7-12***

## ***Persistence brings its own rewards***

### **1. An Encouragement to Persist in prayer, vs 7-8**

- ***“keep on ...” vs 7,8***  
***even the uncaring will respond to persistence***  
***Luke 11.5-8; 18.1-8***  
***so, how much more will our perfect Father God***
- ***Our persistence demonstrates our desire 5.6***

### **2. The Basis for our Persistence, vs 9-11**

- ***The Perfect Fatherhood of God vs 9-11***  
***he’s not ignorant of our needs 6.8***  
***nor reluctant to meet them 6.25-33***  
***he’s aware, he cares, he promises to provide***
- ***he will give us what’s truly good for us***

### **3. The Goals for our Persistence in prayer**

- ***keep on asking for***  
***God's priorities 6.9-10***  
***and our own basic needs 6.11-13***  
***food, forgiveness and fortitude***  
***1 John 1.8-9***
- ***keep on seeking***  
***God's kingly rule and his ways 6.33***  
***those who truly seek him***  
***will be found by him Jer 29.12-14; Is 65.1***  
***those who want to do God's will***  
***will discover God's truth in Jesus***  
***John 7.17***

### 3. The Goals for our Persistence in prayer

- *keep on knocking*  
*for doors of opportunity to be opened*  
*Col 4.3; 1 Cor 16.9; 2 Cor 2.12*  
*a promise of guidance Prov 3.5-6*
- *how we pray is shaped by our understanding of whom we pray to*  
*Jesus introduces us to God as our 'Father'*  
*he loves us, so gives us what's good for us*  
*- not everything we ask of him*

### 4. God's Golden Rule, v13

- *Do others good - put yourself in their shoes*
- *Be positive and proactive Gal 6.9-10*  
*like Jesus was Acts 10.38*