

# How to get a Prayer answered

1- **Matthew 7:7-12:** “*ASK and it will be given to you; SEEK and you will find; KNOCK and the DOOR WILL BE OPENED to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.*”

A. Jesus said to get a prayer answered, you must not only **ASK**, but then **SEEK** for the answer to your prayer, **KNOCKING** on every possible **DOOR** of opportunity or possibility. And while you are searching for your answered prayer, the Lord promises to keep all the **WRONG DOORS CLOSED** until you find the **RIGHT DOOR**, which He will **OPEN** for you, and there you will find the answer to your prayers.

## 2- HOW DO YOU ASK?

A. **John 14:13:** “*And I (Jesus) will do whatever you ASK IN MY NAME, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.*”

(1) We must ASK in Jesus’ Name (not Buddha, Mary or Mohommad). For there is only ONE MEDIATOR between God and man, and that is CHRIST, according to **I Timothy 2:5**.

B. In **John 14:23-26** Jesus goes on to say we must LOVE Him and OBEY HIS TEACHINGS if we want God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit to make their HOME in us.

(1) **I Corinthians 3:16** reminds us that we are the TEMPLE of the Holy Spirit.

C. Jesus said in **John 15:7** says “*If you REMAIN IN ME (Jesus) and MY WORDS REMAIN IN YOU, ASK whatever you wish, and it will be given to you.*”

(1) So, are Christ’s WORDS in you when you ASK? Are you OBEYING His teachings, thereby actually living the Christian life?

D. **John 3:21,22** explains: “*Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from Him anything we ASK, BECAUSE WE OBEY HIS COMMANDS, AND DO WHAT PLEASES HIM.*”

(1) So, are you OBEYING HIS COMMANDS, and DOING WHAT PLEASES HIM before you ASK?

**E. James 1:6-8:** *“But when he ASKS, he must BELIEVE and NOT DOUBT, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.”*

(1) When you ASK, you must BELIEVE and not DOUBT.

**F. Jesus said in I John 5:14,15:** *“This is the assurance we have in approaching God: that if we ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us --- whatever we ASK --- we know we have what we ASKED of Him.”*

(1) It’s alright to tell God what you WANT (what your own will is), and it’s alright to tell God what you DON’T WANT. But, if you are not willing to accept God’s answer (HIS WILL) even if it turns out to be what you don’t want...then you’re wasting your time ASKING Him for an answer. God answers according to HIS WILL, not yours. You must trust Him, that He will answer the prayer according to what is best for you.

**G. James 4:3,13-17:** *“When you ASK, you do not receive, because you ASK WITH THE WRONG MOTIVES, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures...(13) Now listen, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.’ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, ‘IF IT IS THE LORD’S WILL, we will live and do this or that.’ As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn’t do it, sins.”*

### 3- WHO’S WILL DO YOU SEEK?

**A. In Matthew 6:10** Jesus said we must pray for God’s will to be done.

(1) Jesus went on to explain in **verses 31-34:** *“So, do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

**B. Remember, you have the Holy Spirit; and, Romans 8:26,27** says: *“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And He who SEARCHES our hearts knows the*

*mind of the Spirit, because THE SPIRIT INTERCEDES FOR THE SAINTS (CHRISTIANS) IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOD'S WILL."*

#### **4- NOW, START KNOCKING!**

**A. Jesus said, in Luke 11:1-13:** *"One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, 'Lord, TEACH US TO PRAY, just as John taught his disciples.'*

*He said to them, 'When you pray, say: 'Father in Heaven, hallowed be your Name, your Kingdom come. May your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'*

*Then He said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.'*

*Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's PERSISTENCE (WON'T GIVE UP) he will get up and give him as much as he needs.*

*So I say to you: ASK and it will be given to you; SEEK and you will find; KNOCK and the DOOR will be opened to you. For everyone who ASKS receives; he who SEEKS finds; and to him who KNOCKS, the DOOR WILL BE OPENED.*

*Which of you fathers, if your son ASKS for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he ASKS for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in Heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"*

- (1) You can't just KNOCK on one door, and if it doesn't open, quit. You must be PERSISTENT and continue KNOCKING until the right door OPENS.

**5- So, I ASKED** in the name of Jesus Christ, as a Christian, who still obeys His teachings, and I'm doing what pleases Him, without any doubts, according to His will (not my own), with the right motives, SEEKING first His Kingdom and His righteousness, allowing the Holy Spirit to intercede for me according to His will. **But, I still can not find the opened door to my prayer. NOW WHAT?**

**A. READ REVELATION 3:7-13:** *"These are the words of Him who is holy and true...WHAT HE OPENS, NO ONE CAN SHUT; AND WHAT HE SHUTS, NO ONE CAN OPEN. I know your deeds (works). See, I HAVE PLACED BEFORE YOU AN OPEN DOOR THAT NO ONE CAN SHUT.*

*I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept My Word and have not denied My Name...(10) Since you have kept My command to endure patiently (YOU KEPT KNOCKING, AND DIDN'T GIVE UP), I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to TEST those who live on the Earth. I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown."*

**(1)** When God answered your prayer, He OPENED THE DOOR FOR YOU. No one else can go through it before you get there, and then close it behind them, in order to prevent you from ever finding the door. THE DOOR WAS OPENED FOR YOU ALONE TO FIND! However, as you SEEK to find this opened door, you will go through many TESTS. You will KNOCK on many doors that will not open to you. Will you hold on to the faith you have, and through perseverance (patient endurance), keep SEEKING, AND KNOCKING? Or, will you stop believing God answered your prayers, and give up the search for the OPENED DOOR?

**B. James 1:2-4,12 says:** *"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face TRIALS of many kinds, because you know that THE TESTING OF YOUR FAITH DEVELOPS PERSEVERANCE. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything...(12) Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because WHEN HE HAS STOOD THE TEST, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to all those who love Him."*