

## READ

Matthew 7:7-12

## CONSIDER

Take a moment to think through what are the things you would ask God for and what are the things you wouldn't ask for. What does it say about your understanding of prayer and of God? Has any of this changed over the years?

How we pray can reveal who we understand God to be. In today's text, prayer is presented as transactional; that if we ask, seek and knock, God is obliged to give us our desires.

Thankfully, this text is less a formula about how to pray but more about the heart of our God who invites us to persistently come to Him in prayer, knowing that He is good and desires to give good gifts to his children.

Looking forward to worshipping together this week as we continue through the Sermon on the Mount.

Pastor Tim Sreedharan

## PRAY

*"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread."*

Father, help us to be a people who worship you and seek to do your will. As we come asking, seeking and knocking, help us to recognize that you want to bless us as we seek first your kingdom righteousness. Amen.

## DIVING DEEPER



WEEK 6

# ASK, SEEK & KNOCK

MATTHEW  
7:7-12

- **When you pray**, what do you most often pray about? Take time to write down 5-10 things that come to mind and then share with your group.
- **Read v7-8.** What attitude would best sum up how we should pray? (persistence)
- **Read v9-11.** What does this teach us about God's heart toward us?
- **Read 5:17 & 7:12.** Both use the phrase "the Law and/or the Prophets." This is an inclusio meaning that everything in between pertains to the Law & the Prophets (i.e. the entire Old Testament). Read Matt 22:36-40. How do these two verses connect?
- **Challenge:** how often are you praying persistently (v7-8) & expectantly (v11) that God will reshape you in light of the values of the kingdom (the Beatitudes) and the Sermon on the Mount? How would this level of persistence in prayer change the way you live?