



*NOTE: Our lesson questions are based on the NIV 2011 edition. Our preference is your first time through the questions, you answer without consulting commentaries - delight in what the Holy Spirit will reveal to you..*

## Lesson 21

### Matthew 7:7-11

1. What truth, verse or insight from Lesson 20 caught your attention, and how were you inspired to treat a fellow believer with more gentleness and respect?
2. As you prayerfully read **Matthew 7:7-11**, Jesus will encourage you to approach the throne of grace with a fresh confidence and expectation because of the kindness of the Father. Jesus compares our Father in heaven to an earthly father.
  - a) How would you characterize your relationship with your father? If you did not grow up with your father, did you have a father figure and how did he fill that role?
  - b) How did your earthly father/father figure respond to your needs and how has that influenced or skewed your expectations of your heavenly Father?
3. a) List the three kinds of engagement that are highlighted in **V7-8**. For each of the engagements, how does the intensity change and what kind of outcome is promised?

- b) In light of what you have learned about the kingdom of God, your heavenly Father, and the Lord's Prayer, when do you think God says YES to a prayer? How has God's best for you in the past been an unexpected response to prayer?
4. a) Jesus makes a "how much more" argument in **Matthew 7:9-11**. What strikes you about how Jesus contrasts an earthly father and his response to a child's request with that of God as the heavenly Father?
- b) How does the reality of God as your Father and the access you have to Him increase your desire to be in His presence and share your requests with Him? Find assurance from **Romans 8:14-16**, confirming that as His children we need no longer live in fear.
5. Seek insight into the heart of God the Father in these verses. What can you conclude about seeking Him?
- **Psalm 27:7-9**
  - **Acts 17:24-25, 27**
  - **Hebrews 11:6**
  - **2 Peter 1:3-4**
6. CHALLENGE: Read **Luke 11:5-8**, a parable Jesus used to teach about prayer, and summarize what happens. What does the parable illustrate about God's view of boldness or audacity in approaching Him? James reinforces this in **James 1:5-6**.

7. How will you let Jesus' teaching guide you and embolden you in your prayer life?  
What has been most meaningful to you in these verses?

8. **JESUS SAID: ASK**

Jesus said our Father in heaven will give good gifts to those who ask Him.

(**Matthew 7:11**) He gives because of who He is, out of His grace and mercy. We are told to ask our generous God for the wisdom we lack in **James 1:5**. The author of Hebrews encourages us to "approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

**Hebrews 4:16.**

- a) With this unique access to the Father who loves you, what good things will you ask of Him? What will you do to prioritize your bold prayers for those things?
- b) What motivates you to approach the Father for wisdom or to intercede with the needs of others in mind?

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."  
**Hebrews 4:16**

**NAME**

**PRAYER REQUEST**