

**OUR ATTITUDE TO ALL, BY PRAYER (V12)!**  
**MATTHEW C7:7-12**

**ILLUSTRATION**

A sandwich, consisting of ham, cheese, pickle, tomato, lettuce, with butter, representing, character (Ch5:1-12), impact (Ch5:13-16), righteousness (Ch5:17-48), disciplines (Ch6:1-18), trust (Ch6:19-34), and judging (Ch7:1-6).

Without the bread, which is the “prayer” needed (Ch7:7-11), to bring about the changes, you can't have what is needed for the community!

**ASK V7+8!**

Is there something in us, that makes us refuse to believe the promises of JESUS? JESUS tells us twice in two verses to ask and receive, to seek and find and to knock and the door will be opened! ***Persist in asking!*** Believe because of the promise JESUS makes!

**ASK V9-11!**

How well do we know our gracious heavenly Father!! He is so gracious!! But, how well do we know this? We are told, twice by JESUS, to pray and ask God the Father to meet our needs and to bring about the changes. What is it about our present culture, that tells us not to? Are we too comfortable? These are questions that we should spend sometime time thinking through. Along with, resist not asking! Know the good Father. Prayer is not unseemly (not according to expected standards of behaviour), ***it is the very way God himself has chosen for us to express our conscious need of him and our humble dependence on him.***

**ASK V12!**

If we want to be treated well, it starts with us! The lesson we learn, is that with prayer, real change is possible! Prayer is the chosen way for us to consciously express ourselves to a benevolent, caring, gracious, loving heavenly Father!

**APPLICATION**

How well do we understand the need for constant prayer, to bring about the changes to ourselves ?

How much should prayer excite us and why?

How have these verse spoken to you?

What will I do in light of these verses?

Prayer is so often the “hidden ministry” that can bear so much good fruit from our gracious heavenly Father, participate in that hidden ministry!