

## MATTHEW 7:8

After telling us to ask seek and knock, Jesus goes on in Matthew 7:8 to make some unconditional promise. Notice what He says:

“Everyone who ask. . .” What’s the next word? *Receives*.

“He who seeks. . .” What’s next? *Finds*.

“And to him who knocks, it will be. . .” Will be what? *Opened*.

Do you see any Loopholes in these promises? Does He say there anywhere that God answers some prayers but not others? Does that passage imply that if we pray, God might hear us, or he might not?

No, God’s guarantee for us is this: He hears and answers every prayer. Andrew Murray’s book *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, says “God means prayer to have answers.” And we see plenty of evidence for that in the pages of God’s Word.

Prayer opened the Red Sea.

Prayer brought water from the rock and bread from heaven.

Prayer made the sun stand still.

Prayer brought fire from the sky on Elijah’s sacrifice.

Prayer overthrew armies and healed the sick.

Prayer raised the dead.

The same has always been true, down through all the centuries that followed Bible times. Prayer has paved the way for the conversion of millions of people. Things that we think are impossible, God does when people pray.

R. A. Torrey has written some of the best books on prayer ever published, but there was a time when his prayer life couldn’t get off the ground. The day came, Torrey writes, “when I realized what real prayer meant, realizing that prayer was having an audience with God, actually coming into the presence of God, and asking and getting things from Him.” That realization transformed his prayer life: “Before that, prayer had been a mere duty, and sometimes a very irksome duty, but from that time on prayer has been not merely a duty, but a privilege, one of the the most highly esteemed privileges of life.”

As you get a deeper and deeper picture of how prayer means being in the presence of God to both ask for and receive His blessings, I hope you too, will begin to find it one of the highest privileges in your life.

David Jeremiah, *The Prayer Matrix*