

Pursuing God

With Persistence and Perseverance

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7; Luke 11:9

According to the verb tense here, this can be translated as: “Keep on asking, keep on seeking, keep on knocking.” Seeking God takes time and energy, and humility. We are commanded to search for God for our benefit. In reality, He is not just commanding us, but He is wooing us, gracing us, and letting us find Him much like a Dad does in “hide and seek” with His five year old. He loves it when we find Him and so do I.

Studies included in this article are: Seek The Knowledge (Experience) of God; Whole Hearted Search For God; God Is Drawing Us; Our Responsibility Is To Come To God; Pursue Godly Things; Biblical Examples Of Perseverance; Biblical Examples of Persistence

For more information on this topic, please see: “Seek The Lord”; “Knowledge of God”; “Determined”; “Perseverance”

Seek The Knowledge (Experience) of God

Romans 1:28 As they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting.

Ephesians 1:17I Pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.

Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the **knowledge** of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Philippians 1:9I Pray that your love may abound still more and more in **knowledge** and all discernment.

Colossians 1:9–10 We do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 2:2 That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ.

Colossians 3:10 And have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him.

2 Timothy 3:7 Always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Hebrews 10:26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the **knowledge** of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.

2 Peter 1:2–3 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the **knowledge** of Him who called us by glory and virtue.

2 Peter 1:8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the **knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Whole Hearted Search For God (8x's)

Deuteronomy 4:29 But from there **you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.**

Psalms 27:4 **One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek:** That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

Psalms 119:2 **Blessed** *are* those who keep His testimonies, **Who seek Him with the whole heart!**

Psalms 119:10 **With my whole heart I have sought You;** Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!

Proverbs 8:17 I love those who love me, And **those who seek me diligently will find me.**

Ecclesiastes 1:13 **And I set my heart to seek and search out by wisdom** concerning all that is done under heaven; this burdensome task God has given to the sons of man, by which they may be exercised.

Jeremiah 24:7 Then **I will give them a heart to know Me**, that I *am* the LORD; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God, for **they shall return to Me with their whole heart.**

Jeremiah 29:12-14 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And **you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.** I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you to the place from which I cause you to be carried away captive.

Hosea 4:6, 6:3 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children...Let us know, **Let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD.** His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, Like the latter *and* former rain to the earth.

God Is Drawing Us

Psalms 69:18 **Draw near to my soul**, and redeem it; Deliver me because of my enemies.

Song of Solomon 1:4 **Draw me away!** THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM **We will run after you.**
THE SHULAMITE The king has brought me into his chambers. THE DAUGHTERS OF
JERUSALEM We will be glad and rejoice in you. We will remember your love more than wine. THE
SHULAMITE Rightly do they love you.

John 12:32 And **I**, if I am lifted up from the earth, **will draw all peoples to Myself.**

James 4:8 **Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.** Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify
your hearts, you double-minded.

Our Responsibility Is To Come To God

Exodus 34:2 So be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and **present yourself to Me** there on the top of the mountain.

1 Chronicles 16:29 Give to the LORD the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and **come before Him.**
Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!

Psalms 73:28 But it is **good for me to draw near to God;** I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, That I may
declare all Your works.

Psalms 88:2 **Let my prayer come before You;** Incline Your ear to my cry.

Psalms 95:2 Let us **come before His presence** with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

Psalms 100:2 Serve the LORD with gladness; **Come before His presence** with singing.

Matthew 11:28 **Come to Me,** all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 19:14 But Jesus said, "Let **the little children come to Me,** and do not forbid them; for of such is
the kingdom of heaven."

Mark 10:14 But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "**Let the little children
come to Me,** and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

Luke 18:16 But Jesus called them to Him and said, "**Let the little children come to Me,** and do not forbid
them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

John 5:40 But you **are not willing to come to Me** that you may have life.

John 6:37 **All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,** and the one who comes to Me I will by no
means cast out.

John 6:44-45 No one can come to Me unless **the Father who sent Me draws him;** and I will raise him up
at the last day. And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has
been granted to him by My Father."

John 7:37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, **let**

him come to Me and drink.”

2 Timothy 2:15 **Be diligent to present yourself approved to God**, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Hebrews 7:19 For the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which **we draw near to God**.

Hebrews 10:22 **Let us draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:39 **But we are not of those who draw back** to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. **If anyone hears My voice and opens the door**, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Pursue Godly Things

Romans 14:19 Therefore let us **pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another**.

1 Corinthians 14:1 **Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts**, but especially that you may prophesy.

1 Thessalonians 5:15 See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always **pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all**.

1 Timothy 6:11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and **pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness**.

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but **pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace** with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Hebrews 12:14 **Pursue peace with all people**, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.

1 Peter 3:11 Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him **seek peace and pursue it**.

Psalms 34:14 Depart from evil and do good; **Seek peace and pursue it**.

Biblical Examples Of Perseverance

Wrestling Jacob

Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as

He wrestled with him. And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" So He said to him, "What [is] your name?" He said, "Jacob." And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell [me] Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it [that] you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." Genesis 32:24-30

Blind Bartimaeus

Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you." And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus. So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?" The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road. Mark 10:46-52

Jesus

Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem. Luke 9:51

Biblical Examples of Persistence

The Widow And Unrighteous Judge

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. "Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.' "And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.'" Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. "And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?" Luke 18:1-7

A Friend Comes At Midnight

And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; "and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you?' "I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs. "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Luke 11:5-10

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