

## Scripture Reading

### **A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew** (*Matthew 7:7-11*)

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Which one of you would hand his son a stone when he asks for a loaf of bread, a snake when he asks for a fish? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things to those who ask Him. The Gospel of the Lord. R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Reflection – True surrender, the quickest way to get God’s loving intervention in our difficult situation**

**God is the most loving Father that we can ever have.** God is the Eternal Father. From all eternity, God is Father. He created us to be His sons and daughters through Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son Who redeems the human race through His Blood shed on the Cross. In the Old Testament era, most of the people did not know much about God, did not have a personal relationship with God, and no one dared call God “Father”. However, Jesus came to our world and revealed to us God the Father – the most loving father we can ever have. God the Father demonstrated beyond a shadow of doubt His great love for His human children when He sent His divine Son, Jesus Christ as a sacrifice to redeem the world through His death on the Cross. After giving us His only Son, will God withhold any other good thing from us? *He who did not spare His own Son but handed Him over for us all, how will He not also give us everything else along with Him? (Romans 8:32).*

**God is concerned about the details of our life, and will give us timely help.** Jesus tells us that God even keeps count of the number of hair on our head! (cf. Matthew 10:30). This speaks of a very personal, caring God. *The sheep hear His voice, as He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out (John 10:3).* Though God has billions of human children, each is precious to Him as if each is an only child! Thus, Jesus tells us that the good shepherd, personifying God, will leave his 99 sheep and go in search of the lost one till it is found. As a caring Father, God will never delay unnecessarily whatever help any of His children need from Him. Thus, Jesus did not hesitate to heal the crippled woman in the synagogue on the Sabbath even in the full knowledge that this would incur the disapproval and criticism of the synagogue official (cf. Luke 13:10-17).

**Trust in God and He will act (cf. Psalm 37:5).** God wants us to prove our faith in and love for Him by manifesting our trust in Him. Without proving our trust in God, our faith is dead. St Faustina tells us through her diary: *When I see that the burden is beyond my strength, I do not consider or analyze it or probe into it, but I run like a child to the Heart of Jesus and say only one word to Him: “You can do all things.” And then I keep silent, because I know that Jesus Himself will intervene in the matter, and as for me, instead of tormenting myself, I use that time to love Him.” (1033, page 392 of diary).* Jesus says to each of us who are weary: *“Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).* The rest that we can get will depend on the degree we can really let go, unload and cast our burdens on the Lord.

**True surrender is the complete unloading of all our burdens, anxieties, unholy fears and worries on the Lord in the complete trust of letting God be God in the full submission to His holy divine will.** In the eyes of God, a simple act of true surrender is worth much more than multiple prayers offered with little trust. True surrender to God is not easy for our human nature which is inclined to try to control even things that are outside our human control. It takes great faith and trust in God to let go and let God be God. But when we are able to do this with God’s grace which is always available to us in accordance to our needs, our faith takes a quantum leap which is impossible without us going through the trial. May we always remind ourselves that God’s will is the sum total of His love, mercy and Providence. Insisting on our own will will only act against our own welfare and be a complete waste of time. In the final analysis, all the trials that God sends our way is to increase our faith and trust in Him so that our souls can be further sanctified and made ready for our final union with God.

**Conversation with Jesus:** Precious Lord, open my eyes to discern Your will for me. May I ask only what is permitted within Your loving will. Through Your Passion on the Cross, my prayers and sacrifices, strengthen my faith and trust in You. Give me the graces I need to cast on You all my burdens and difficulties in the knowledge that everything is within Your power and control, and that Your will for me is the sum total of Your mercy, love and Providence for me. You said through St Faustina: *When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls (1074).* Help me trust in You always so that I can have Your peace in my heart. Mary, Mother of Salvation, pray for me. Thank You, Jesus. Praise You, Jesus. [www.twohearts.hk](http://www.twohearts.hk)