THE ATTENTIVE FATHER

(Matthew 7:7-11)

"Does anybody see me?!"

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. 9Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER IS ATTENTIVE TO THE NEEDS OF HIS CHILDREN

- His desire is that His children persist in asking for what they need

  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; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. (7-8)

- His children know what attentiveness looks like from their own parents

  Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? (9-10)

- His attentiveness is expressed through His generosity

  If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! (11)

RESPONSE Persist! Rely! Thank!

God's glory shines more brightly when he satisfies us in times of loss than when he provides for us in times of plenty. (John Piper, *Don't Waste Your Life*)