

Dear NU Family,

Recently, a colleague asked me, "How do you do it? How do you endure challenges and always seem to keep a positive outlook on life"? There are many things I could say in response to that question, including the honest truth that I have not always been able to maintain a positive attitude. However, my first response and most sincere response, was, "I am committed to persistence". When I am knocked down, I get back up. When people say bad things about me, I remind myself what God says about me and what the real truth is. When there seems to be an obstacle in my way, I find another way. I remember that, with persistence, water can actually cut a pathway through solid rock.

In Luke 11:9-13, Jesus gives great advice not only for daily living, but also for how to approach our spiritual life:

*"So I say to you: 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. Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 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 the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"*

Sometimes I find myself feeling doubtful, and wondering if I am able to have the good things God promises. It is interesting that this verse affirms what God will do six times. Can you find those affirming verses? Other times, I am fearful. In these verses, I am reminded that God will not give me something harmful or that is intended to hurt me. I am safe in the love of my Father. Sometimes I feel inadequate to receive what God has for me, believing that I am less of a Christian than others, who appear to be spiritual giants. But here, God tells me that if I ask, he will give the Holy Spirit to me in the same way that others have received him. The key is to ask, seek, and knock, and to *keep asking and keep seeking and keep knocking*.

One of my favorite worship songs is ["It is Well"](#) by Kristene DiMarco. Often, when I feel overwhelmed, I will play this song on repeat. The line that grabs me the most is: "Through it all / Through it all / My eyes are on you / It is well with me". Through the ups and downs and craziness of life, if I am persistent with the God who understands me, he will respond favorably to me. Don't give up or give in, and it will be well with you also.

### **COMING UP THIS WEEK**

**Mon, April 10** | Chapel: Sarah Jobson | Butterfield Chapel Balcony, 10 & 11:20am

**Mon, April 10** | Easter Pursuit & Baptisms | Butterfield Chapel, 8:30pm

**Wed, April 12** | Senior Speakers: Sami Price (CSBS) and Adam Kennedy (COM) | Butterfield Chapel, 10 & 11:20am

**Fri, April 13** | GOOD FRIDAY - UNIVERSITY CLOSED

**This Monday at Easter Pursuit, we will be doing water baptisms. If you'd like to be baptized, text your name to the prayer number: 206-486-4656.**



In Christ, our persistent Savior,

**Phil Rasmussen, M.A.**

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