

FA1. Being Persistent, Steadfast, & Alert in Our Prayers & Petitions.

We are to be persistent, steadfast, and alert in our prayers and petitions.

FA1a: *We are to be persistent in our prayers and petitions.*

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FA1a: *We are to be alert in our prayers and petitions.*

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 7:7-8

Keep asking, and it will be given to you; keep seeking, and you will find; keep knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who keeps asking receives; he who keeps seeking finds; and to him who keeps knocking, the door will be opened.

Matthew 7:11

So if you, even though you are bad, know how to give your children gifts that are good, how much more will your Father in heaven keep giving good things to those who keep asking him!

Colossians 4:2

Keep persisting in prayer, staying alert in it and being thankful.

1 Peter 5:8

Stay sober, stay alert! Your enemy, the Adversary, stalks about like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Luke 11:9-10, 18:1-8

Acts 1:14; 2:42

Romans 12:12

Ephesians 6:18

2 Thessalonians 1:11

Related New Testament Mitzvot

FA12 Praying Regularly and Continually

FA30 Praying Often and Fervently

FA41 Praying Vigilantly

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Genesis 32:25-29

.. and Ya'akov was left alone. Then some man wrestled with him until daybreak. When he saw that he did not defeat Ya'akov, he struck Ya'akov's hip socket, so that his hip was dislocated while wrestling with him. The man said, "Let me go, because it's daybreak." But Ya'akov replied, "I won't let you go unless you bless me." The man asked, "What is your name?" and he answered, "Ya'akov." Then the man said, "From now on, you will no longer be called Ya'akov, but Isra'el; because you have shown your strength to both God and men and have prevailed."

Deuteronomy 9:25-26

So I fell down before ADONAI for those forty days and nights; and I lay there; because ADONAI had said he would destroy you. I prayed to ADONAI; I said, 'Adonai ELOHIM! Don't destroy your people, your inheritance! You redeemed them through your greatness, you brought them out of Egypt with a strong hand!

Joshua 1:8

Yes, keep this book of the Torah on your lips, and meditate on it day and night, so that you will take care to act according to everything written in it. Then your undertakings will prosper, and you will succeed.

1 Kings 8:59

May these words of mine, which I have used in my plea before ADONAI, be present with ADONAI our God day and night, so that he will uphold the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Isra'el day by day.

Psalms 37:7

Be still before ADONAI; wait patiently till he comes. Don't be upset by those whose way succeeds because of their wicked plans.

Psalms 40:2(1)

I waited patiently for ADONAI, till he turned toward me and heard my cry.

Psalms 88:1 (NKJ)

O LORD, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You.

Micah 7:7

But as for me, I will look to ADONAI, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

Comment

Petitions are prayers in which we ask God for something. There are times when we pray and do not perceive that God is answering. Being persistent means that we should pray repeatedly until God answers or until the reason for our prayer becomes moot. Being steadfast is similar but adds the dimension of waiting on the Lord, maintaining our faith and intention, not swerving in our

dedication, and not losing hope that God will respond. Being alert means praying with *kavanah* (from the heart) and not allowing our times in prayer (especially repeated prayer) to become dull and mechanical. It also means listening for and expecting the Holy Spirit to direct us.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

G08 Serving, Worshiping, Praising, & Praying to God

G17 Being Continuous, Persistent, & Fervent in Prayer