

Read this first: [Psalm 51](#)

## Sounds Like A Broken Record

“Continue to ask, and God will give to you. Continue to search, and you will find. Continue to knock, and the door will open for you. Yes, everyone who continues asking will receive. He who continues searching will find. And he who continues knocking will have the door opened for him (Matt. 7:7–8).

I was struck by the sudden prospect that many of you never heard your mother say, “You sound like a broken record.” And the context suffers unless you have experienced the sound of a recorded singer completely stuck on one syllable of their song. At least until you got a chance to go over and whack the record player—er, *phonograph* if you lived a more refined life. (Maybe you have seen such things in a museum. They’re next to the typewriters.)

Today’s Bible reading, combined with the text, arouses in the imagination a picture of God hearing your constant confessions of our sinfulness. It must sound like a broken record... “forgive me, forgive me, forgive me, forgive me” going on day after day. Does God ever just want to give you a good whack?

No.

Jesus took the whacks for you. While today’s text usually isn’t applied to matters of forgiveness, perhaps it should be, given the amount of comfort it offers. You probably noticed that the translation cited clearly shows continuing action, something many other versions do not.

Of course, the *asking* is only part of the message. Jesus assures us of the *receiving* too. So it’s not like the annoyed parent shutting down a child for petty pestering or a teacher who is worn thin from an inattentive student repeatedly asking something like “What do we have to do?” God assures you that not only does He always hear you, but also that His response is repeatedly favorable and as persistent as the proverbial broken record.

“I forgive. I forgive. I forgive, I forgive I forgive.”

To be continued. Or is it *continuing*?

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