
Matthew 7:7-11: "Ask, Seek, Knock"

(V7): If you ASK, SEEK, KNOCK! And then, what should motivate us to pray, (V8): You will RECEIVE; you will FIND; and it shall be OPENED to you!

Christian, IF you ARE growing in grace and in the knowledge of God, THE MORE you will see YOUR NEED of YOUR heavenly Father as YOU pass through this earthly life. IF this is true of YOU, believer in Christ, YOU will a constant petitioner at the throne of grace, ASKING MORE of God; casting EVERY care upon the Lord:
Psalm 55:22

The Lord Jesus knew the hearts of the people of that time, and He knows us all too well. He has searched you and known you, Christian. He knows your every thought!

(4) times, in (6:25-34), the Lord Jesus said, "take no thought", don't be anxious about your earthly needs, "for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things".

(6:25): *"Therefore I say unto you, take no thought for your life"*

BUT: We so often fill ourselves with anxiety and care about the future and things that have not happened. How are we going to deal with this or that?

Beloved, these are NOT the thoughts of one who is walking by faith in Christ; but these worrisome thoughts must be mortified, they are thoughts of unbelief and distrust in YOUR heavenly Father!

STOP worrying about what hasn't happened! Trust EVERY aspect of your life to the Only One who knows and has determined your future!

As a child runs to their earthly father when they are worried and full of fear, SO RUN, believer to your heavenly Father when your heart is overwhelmed, and when you are full of worries and fears! Luke 11:9-13

(V13): "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" (MTF)

Jesus cried out: "ASK and it shall be given you". What a promised from the Godman! So Christian, child of God, what do you ASK OF GOD?

What are you SEEKING from your God and Heavenly Father? What closed doors are you KNOCKING ON, that they might be opened?

Yes, of course we should be ASKING for the salvation of our loved ones, healing for the sick, direction (God's will) for this or that earthly endeavor; but WHAT THINGS, PRAY TELL, are you asking for from God for regarding your Christian life and your personal sanctification?

Luke 11:13: How many of you are ASKING for the Holy Spirit?

The Lord teaches us in this text that earthly fathers don't give things to their children that will hurt them, or things that will lead them astray and influence them toward sin, but they give good things to their children.

(V11): "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good things to your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give GOOD THINGS to them that ask Him?"

So back to "ASK and it shall be given you"; and, for every one that ASKS-RECEIVES!

First: The word ASK here is a present-imperative, which means (child of God) that it should be happening in your life EVERY WHEN! You are to ALWAYS to be ASKING/INQUIRING of God!

"Jugiter Coram Deo" ALWAYS before His presence!

If you ask much of God, you show yourself to be VERY NEEDY before God, that's a good thing! Since EVERY ONE of us IS NEEDY, every one of us should be CONSTANT and HUMBLE PETITIONERS before God's throne of grace.

1st: Do you ask God? 2nd: How do you ask? 3rd: There's a wrong ASKING. 4th: What are you asking your God and heavenly Father for?

This is not the first time God commanded His children to come to Him and "ASK of Him that He might bestow blessings upon them. ASK ME, saith the LORD!

Throughout the history of time, the Lord bid His people come to me and ask what you will of me! What child never asks their father for anything?

Matthew 7:9-11

If earthly (sinful) fathers will give good things to their children, how MUCH MORE shall your heavenly Father give good things to them that ASK HIM? Do you daily pray unto God, your heavenly Father, and ask Him for your needs?

Deuteronomy 4:7, 1 Kings 3:5-13, Psalm 34:15-19, Jeremiah 33:3, John 4:9-10

Don't forget this important truth about ASKING things of God in prayer; our text says: "It shall be given you"

WHAT shall be given you? Whatever you ask? Is this a blank check from God? Well, that's what He said! This is how the carnal-earthly mind would understand this passage.

But child of God, your heavenly Father IS NOT going to give you something that is NOT good for you, and He's not going to give you something that is NOT pleasing to Him, or that is NOT going to glorify Him in your life!

Don't forget that Solomon's prayer PLEASED the Lord!

This brings us to HOW you are to ask in prayer? And what you are to ask for?

This is where SO MANY Christians fail in prayer, (stop praying, become discouraged in prayer) because so many Christians don't know how to pray!

And that is because they don't know God as they should, and they don't know what God's Word says about how they are to bring their requests and supplications to God! John 14:12-14, 15:7, 16, 1 John 3:22, 5:14-15

Are you asking for things that are according to God's revealed will? Or for what is in accordance with your will?

Don't forget (C6) when the Lord Jesus taught us HOW to pray, He said, pray like this, in these words: "Thy Kingdom come, THY WILL BE DONE in earth, (in MY LIFE here) as it is in heaven". THIS should accompany EVERY supplication and request when we pray!

We become discouraged when we ASK for what is NOT according to God's will, and for things that are not pleasing to Him! These are sinful requests!

If God doesn't give us what we want, it's because what we want is NOT according to His will. We should acquiesce in this! If it's not according to God's will, it's NOT going to bring Him glory and honor, and THAT is why my Father in heaven is not giving it to me.

Psalm 66:18, Proverbs 15:8, 21:27, Mark 10:38, James 4:1-

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Think about your life in Christ, Christian; you CALLED to be growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! You should "be becoming" more like Christ with every passing day.

Jesus was the sinless Son of Man; He was as Man of continual prayer to His Father!

If YOU are a child of God, and a believer in Christ, shouldn't you be following His perfect example? If He prayed often, shouldn't you pray often?

Proverbs 4:18: "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day"

The MORE you know God, the MORE you will know HOW TO PRAY unto Him; the MORE you know God, the more "spiritually-natural" it will be for you to pray! You will want and desire to pray unto your heavenly Father, and to worship Him, and to bring your supplications and requests to Him!

THINK about this as we close this portion of Matthew, if you are a child of the Kingdom of Christ, your chief desires should be to know more of Christ, and of the truths and promises of the Kingdom of heaven.

Once this is true of you, you will constantly be desiring an audience with your God and heavenly Father. Remember Matthew 6:33

Christian, the things that you ASK from your heavenly Father, should always be for the advancing of the Kingdom of God in your life.

In closing, I take you back to what Jesus said in Luke 11:13:

"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him"

Jesus just taught us (C6) that our greatest needs are NOT earthly; God says, I'm going to give you what you need to sustain you in this life, just like a father to his children. So why are you worrying about those things? Your greatest needs are the needs of your soul!

How often have you ASKED God for MORE of His Spirit? And MORE of the FRUIT of His Spirit in your life!

John 14:26-27, Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7

ASK and it shall be given you; for EVERY ONE that ASK RECEIVES!