

Attitudes of Our Asking, Seeking, and Knocking

[[Luk 11:5-13 KJV] 5 And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? 7 And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. 8 I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. **9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.** 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if [he ask] a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 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?

Bob Hoekstra says, "Serving the Lord is accomplished by the work of the Spirit in and through our lives, not by natural capabilities."

Ask (Not a one-time deal.) We have to keep on asking with the right attitude.

The Greek word aiteo means "to ask, demand, beg, desire, require."

It has a forceful meaning to it. An example in present day activities would be when we go to the bank, knowing we have money in our checking account, and presenting a check "asking" (in a way demanding) money we know we have in the account and it belongs to us. We expect a result which in this case would be the teller giving us our money we requested.

The Greek word, aiteo, implies the petitioner requests or is in need to someone who is greater in person and can meet that need of that person.

Jesus is saying, Keep asking the Lord while you wait for your answer. Everyone who asks and keeps on asking will receive.

Don't ask amiss.

[Jas 4:3 KJV] 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume [it] upon your lusts.

Ask so your joy will be full. Ask for more of the Holy Spirit.

[Jhn 16:24 KJV] 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

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Jesus knows what we want to ask him and he is capable of meeting all our requests.

[Jhn 16:19, 23 KJV] 19 Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me? ... 23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give [it] you.

[Eph 3:20 KJV] 20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask[G154] or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Keep on Seeking (Don't stop once you get saved! There is so much more.) Continue seeking the Lord.

Don't seek earthly things that will not last as a higher priority than seeking things of eternal life.

[Amo 5:4-6, 8, 14 KJV] 4 For thus saith the LORD unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live: 5 But seek not Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not to Beersheba: for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Bethel shall come to nought. 6 Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour [it], and [there be] none to quench [it] in Bethel. ... 8 [Seek him] that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD [is] his name: ... 14 Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken.

Seek the Kingdom of God first. Number one Priority. You will have time for your family and all else.

[Mat 6:33 KJV] 33 **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;** and all these things shall be added unto you.

Seek and ye shall find. You can't find it til you look for it.

[Mat 7:7 KJV] 7 Ask, and it shall be given you; **seek, and ye shall find;** knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Greg Laurie says, "Often, we have two views about the will of God that aren't accurate. The first view is that finding God's will is difficult, as though God were hiding it from us. We imagine God looking down from Heaven and saying, "You're getting warmer. Warmer. Hot! Hot! No. Cold. Cold. Cold."

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“The opposite view is that God’s will is something undesirable, like going on a diet. Every diet seems to be either boring or miserable. And we can think of God’s will that way... God’s will is joyful, and He wants to reveal His will to us.”

“The will of God is not an option for the true Christian. Therefore, not only should we want to know the will of God, but we also should be anxious to do the will of God.”

Don’t seek signs. Seek Jesus.

[Luk 11:29 KJV] 29 And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet.

[Luk 12:29-31 KJV] 29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. 30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. 31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Many shall seek to enter in but shall not be able.

[Luk 13:24 KJV] 24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

He who comes to Jesus shall never hunger. He who believes in Jesus will never thirst.

[Jhn 4:14 KJV] 14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

[Jhn 6:35 KJV] 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

Bob Hoekstra says: “This Holy Spirit supply develops abundant life within the trusting heart. Ultimately, this fountain that grows within flows outward to others. “Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” Dry, thirsty hearts that come to Jesus in faith, not only find satisfaction for their thirst, but eventually pour out life in the Spirit to others.”

Keep on knocking.

Present yourself to God.

[Luk 11:9 KJV] 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Adrian Rogers says, “God doesn’t want you to take Him into your business as your partner. He’s your boss. He owns it; it is His. You can’t have half a sacrifice. God will not

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accept half a sacrifice. You are to present yourself as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Him.”

One day it will be too late to knock.

[Luk 13:25 KJV] 25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

Jesus knocks on your door.

[Rev 3:20 KJV] 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Knock on the heart doors of others to share the Good News of Christ. Love your neighbor as yourself. Who is your neighbor?

"God hath made of one blood all people that dwell upon the face of the earth." It is thy coat which is better than theirs, but thou art by no means better than they. They are men, and what art thou more than that? Take heed that thou love thy neighbour even though he be in rags, or sunken in the depths of poverty.

Tonight we will discover what God has for us in Revelation chapter 1.