

Matthew 7:7-12 (11/17/2024)

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Matthew 7:7-12

1. Explain if you think the instructions and promise given in Matthew 7:7-11 is for believers and/or non-believers.

2. What do you think Jesus meant when He said, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you.” (Matthew 7:7)?

3. Jesus said that the Father knows our needs even before we ask Him (Matthew 6:32), so why should we pray according to the following scriptures?

Matthew 6:9 “Pray like this...”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”

James 2b “...you do not have, because you do not ask”

James 5:16b “...the prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working”

4. Do you think Matthew 7:7-11 promises that God will give us whatever we ask? Discuss what Matthew 6:9-10; 7:11; and 1 Corinthians 10:31 reveal concerning our requests.

5. "...prayer is vital to our spiritual lives, and sometimes we simply see it as a duty that must be performed or a discipline that must be carried out rather than as an unspeakable privilege and joy and opportunity we have been given by the Father."
(Matthew: An Expositional Commentary p.168 by R.C. Sproul)

Do you find that you relate to Sproul's comment about prayer? If so, in what ways has your view and practice of prayer fluctuated? What have you learned to appreciate about prayer?

6. What do you learn about God the Father from the analogy of what earthly parents give to their children (Matthew 7:9-11)? How is this revelation meaningful to you?

7. How are we able to do to others what we wish they would do for us (Matthew 7:12; Romans 5:5; 1 John 4:7)?