

God, Our Gracious Heavenly Father

Matthew 7:7-12

Intro:

- A. **These words are spoken by Jesus.**
 - 1. They are from His Sermon on the Mount.
 - 2. They are for His disciples.
- B. **Jesus has spoken about prayer.**
 - 1. They are to pray in their closets.
 - 2. They are to pray publicly.
- C. **Prayer is simple.**
 - 1. It is like asking your earthly father.
 - 2. There are no mysteries and no secrets.
 - 3. God does not need to be begged.

I. The Disciple Will Never Lose His Dependence Upon God.

- A. **"Ask, and it shall be give you." V.7**
 - 1. ask = αιτω = "to entreat", "supplicate", it expresses a petition from an inferior to a superior.
 - 2. given = δωμι = "to give", "present." It implies the notion of giving freely unforced.
- B. **"Seek, and ye shall find:"**
 - 1. seek = ζητω = "to strive to find", "look for"
 - 2. find = ευρισκω = "to find as by search," "discover."
- C. **"Knock, and it shall be opened unto you."**
 - 1. knock = κρουω = "to rap, as at a door for entrance."
 - 2. opened = ανογω = "to open", "to stand open."
- D. **The simplicity of receiving. V.8**
 - 1. When we ask, God gives.
 - 2. When we seek, God reveals.
 - 3. When we knock, God opens.

II. The Earthly Father And His Son.

- A. **"or what man is there of you..." v.9a**

1. "What human father among you" - Wms
2. man = ανθρωπος = "man"

B. The request of the son. V.9b

1. "if his son ask bread,"
3. "will he give him a stone"?

C. The request of the son. V.10

1. "or if he ask a fish..."
2. "will he give him a serpent"?

III. The Heavenly Father And His Children. Luke 11:13

A. "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children..." v.11

1. evil = πονηρος = "evil", "malignant"
2. gifts = δομα = "a gift."
3. "in spite of your being bad." - Wms

B. "...how much more shall your Father which is in heaven, give good things to them that ask him?"

1. "How greater the possibility."
2. "give wholesome gifts to those who ask."
3. If evil fathers give gifts to their children because they as, our perfect Father will also give us the things we need.
4. This is the setting of a home meal. The son says, "pass the bread," will his earthly father pass him a stone? See 6:8
5. Why aren't our prayers answered? James 3:3 - **"ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."**
 - a. amiss = κακος = wickedly, wrongly
 - b. consume = δαπαναω to waste, to exhaust, impoverish
6. The son did not ask for 10 fish!

IV. The Disciple, The Law And Others.

A. These were Jewish disciples. V.12

1. Jesus would occasionally remind them that He was not teaching them contrary to the Law of Moses.
2. Matthew 5:17

B. **"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them:"**

1. "Whatever, therefore, you would have men do to you, do you also to them" - Wey
2. "Therefore, you must always treat other people as you would like to have them treat you" - Gspd.

C. **"for this is the law and the propets."**

1. "that is the meaning for the law and the prophets" - Mof
2. "for in this the law and the propets are summed up" - Wey