

**A Community That Gives
Matthew 7:7-14**

Study #12 of Life on the Rock

1. Begin with Prayer

2. Read Scripture Together Matthew 7:7-14

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. "Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? "Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him! "In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets. "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

3. Share Who You Are

- A. Have you ever made a bold request of God? How did He provide? Did you seek your request after you made the ask? Why is asking God so important? (James 4:2-3) Does this mean God always gives us what we want?
- B. To whom does Jesus compare God and us? (Matthew 7:9-11) Why would comparing God to a parent and us to His children be such a shocking comparison for the people listening to the Sermon on the Mount? Was God near and familiar to them or was He distant and unapproachable? How does God seem to you? What kinds of gifts does God give His children?
- C. What does the Bible teach about God's proximity to the 'poor in spirit'? (Matthew 5:3, Psalm 34:18).
- D. Upon what does Jesus base His command, "Treat other people the same way you want them to treat you"? (Leviticus 19:33-34) Why is Jesus' grounding in the Old Testament so important? What does it tell us about His authority?
- E. Who is the narrow gate that leads to life? Why is that gate narrow? (John 10:9, Acts 4:12). Why do you think the gate that leads to destruction is so wide? Is that gate what most people practice and count upon to justify their lives?

4. Take This Next Step

Make a bold request of God for His Kingdom. Ask Him for something that will not necessarily profit you or someone you love directly, but serves to announce and sustain His Kingdom on earth as it is in Heaven. Tell your group what you asked for and share the results.

5. Pray Together