

# Good Morning/Evening Church

Turn your Bibles to Matthew 7:7

Pray

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Read

Mt 7:7-12

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ASK - CONTEXT

*First...Let us look at the context of this verse. AS many people have taken this verse (the name it and claim it movement) to fit their theology .*

They take this vs and say Therefore all we have to do is ask with faith and persistence and we will get it. "You do not have because you do not ask" James 4:2 is often quoted

This view puts GOD as a holy ATM machine and is much bigger then many of us think. It has infiltrated our 3rd world brothers and sisters. Some of my own family members believe this view. And in most cases leaves the person very disheartened and they believe they lack the faith to ever receive anything from GOD. Its actually very sad seeing it first hand.

So CONTEXT CONTEXT CONTEXT

*The preceding verse is talking about giving what is holy to dogs.*

*A) So keeping the context what is GOD telling us to Ask for?*

# DISCERNMENT/ WISDOM

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Everyday most if not all of us our working with a wide variety of people some who want to stab you in the back and others who are really hurting.

Some need our help while others are seeking to destroy us.

How are we to know? A.S.K.

Benevolence Example---man came in just wanted his gas card. I did not throw pearls before swine.

Some of you may say “hey that’s not very loving”

**DON'T JUDGE ME >>>>LOG EYE!!!!!!!**

Solomon as an example

**1 KINGS 3:5-14**

The unselfish prayer rewarded he asked for wisdom in order to be an effective leader.

**\*pure motives of the child Solomon**

James 4:3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.

**The simple request of Solomon..**

**\*Remember it is not the abundance of words you use to ask GOD.**

**\*you don't need to pray in KJV only**

**You can keep it simple**

**Story of girl who had a seizure last Saturday...motionless in her moms arm and a gentleman held the child caressed her head and asked GOD" do what you do LORD" she opened her eyes and smiled.**

**WHAT WE ASK FOR reveals our heart.**

**Example of the women praying for a husband in Uganda**

**I want him to be tall dark handsome and rich. I asked why does he need to be rich? She replied "I like to shop and do not want to work" There was no spiritual qualifications. Her answered revealed her maturity or lack of and selfishness.**

**Side note if a father prays for her daughter's husband "pray that he will love the LORD" and has job.**

**IF I WIN the lotto I'm going to give half of it to Church and help people who need it. Don't try and manipulate GOD.**

**GOD aint gonna give you all a million dollars because he knows how bad it will be for you. I love the prayer in **Prov 30:8-9****

**Give me neither poverty nor riches —**

**Feed me with the food allotted to me;**

**Lest I be full and deny You,**

**And say, "Who is the Lord?"**

**Or lest I be poor and steal,**

**And profane the name of my God.**

**How many of us ask GOD for just enough?**

**SEEKING GOD**

**A) Whom do we seek?**

**We seek God**

**Psalm 73:25- Whom have I in Heaven!**

**I remember when I first got saved the zeal, the excitement the joy I had just for the glorious fact my name was written in the book of life!**

**Now I feel like I'm in a constant gardening mindset cutting away the concerns of the world trying to choke me out!**

**B) Because we/I often seek the what instead of the who?**

**We/I seek the gift in the Lord and not the hand itself**

**Or we seek things to fulfill us!**

**A relationship**

**A car/house**

**A job**

**When I'm not in the car I drive I'm not defined by my job or relationships, but the relationship I have in Christ!**

**I am a CHILD of GOD!**

**I want to spend time with my Abba/Father**

**I love that I can continually ask and seek Him and He never tires and He is inexhaustible**

**He never runs out of love and grace, who wouldn't want to seek someone like that?**

**So church, let's seek God earnestly as the psalmist says in**

**Psalm 63:1- O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water.**

**Because nothing can quench your thirst in this dry and weary land**

**Not the best spouse**

**Not the best children**

**Not the best job**

**The water this world offers will have you thirst again**

**Only the living water can quench your thirst!**

**When you have a chance please read Psalm 63:1-5**

**Knocking**

**Defined= Asking plus Acting plus Persevering**

**So as you ask God for wisdom and discernment**

**You're seeking Him through your actions**

**And the knocking continues to persevere**

**This is not a one-time thing!**

**That is one of the problems, is we only do one part of this command!**

**Usually it's the ask without the seeking and knocking**

**We have prayer meetings almost every day, we have brothers and sisters who will stand with you and A.S.K**

**We have 42 home fellowships as well that are here to help us all stay focused on Him**

**These prayer meetings and home fellowships are set up to help you knock keep asking and seeking to persevere!**

**The golden rule is a manner of prayer only possible to be lived if we keep asking, keep seeking and keep knocking**

**Whether or not someone is a swine or possible sheep the truth is we need to be praying for them!**

**The golden rule is not to leave someone alone because that's what you would want them to do but pray for them because that's what they need!**

**I believe most of us in this room are here because someone kept asking, seeking and knocking God on our behalf.**

**I know that's true for me!**

**Thanks Mom and Dad!**

**Before I close I want to look back at the illustrations Matthew gives us in**

**Ch. 7 vs. 9-11-"Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 "Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 "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 good things to those who ask Him!**

**Here we are given an absurd illustration to drive home the point! God is good an infinite amount more than our earthly fathers even at their best**

**But my point in Vs. 11 scripture says "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 good things to those who ask Him!**

**But if you cross reference**

**Luke 11:13- "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"**

**We see this "good gift" is God Himself- the Holy Spirit!**

**I want to give the opportunity receive the Holy Spirit today as God has been constantly asking you, actively seeking you**

**And today He is knocking on the door of your heart**

**Worship team come forward**

**In your seat while we continue to worship take time to turn to God and ask for forgiveness and to receive the Holy Spirit**

**If you chose to make that decision today I would ask you to receive prayer from our prayer warriors up front after the service**

**Peace+Grace!**