

Sunday Sermon Guide

Central Baptist Church – Crockett, Texas

August 3, 2025 - Ask, Seek, Knock: God's Open-Door Policy

Main Passage: Matthew 7:7–12

"Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." (Matthew 7:7–8)

I. God Invites Us to Come Near

- The invitation to ask, seek, and knock is rooted in God's desire for relationship.
- These words are commands, not suggestions—God wants us to approach Him.
- This passage follows Jesus' teaching on judgment, emphasizing how to approach people and God with humility.

II. Present-Active Imperatives: Keep On

- "Ask," "seek," and "knock" are written in the present-active tense in Greek.
- It's not a one-time action—it's a way of life.
- God desires ongoing dependence, not momentary desperation.

III. What Are We Asking For?

- The context is spiritual: wisdom, guidance, strength—not selfish gain.
- This is not a "name it and claim it" promise—it's a Father-to-child invitation.
- The "it" is what aligns with God's will—righteousness, mercy, and Kingdom living.

IV. God's Character as the Giver

- Jesus compares God to human fathers who give good gifts.
- Even earthly parents respond with care—how much more our perfect Father!

- He gives what we need, not always what we want—but always out of love.

V. The Gospel Connection

- You can't receive God's good gifts until you've entered His family.
- This open-door policy begins at salvation—by grace through faith in Jesus.
- Romans 10:9–13 shows us that the ultimate “ask” is salvation.

VI. The Golden Rule: Living Out What We've Received

- Verse 12 ties the entire section together: treat others the way you want to be treated.
- Those who ask God for mercy and wisdom should reflect that same spirit to others.
- This is the Kingdom ethic: not legalism, but love.

Application & Challenge

- Ask – Are you depending on God daily in prayer?
- Seek – Are you pursuing God through His Word and His will?
- Knock – Are you trusting God to open the right doors in His time?
- Salvation – Have you come to Christ and entered into this relationship?

Sermon Quotes:

“God isn't a cosmic vending machine—but He is a good Father who gives what we need.”

“The door that opened yesterday is not the door for today. You must keep knocking.”

“Unlike a salesman, God never gets tired of hearing you knock.”

“You can't receive God's good gifts until you've been adopted into His family.”