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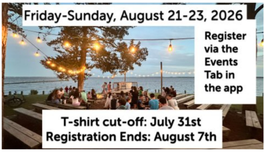
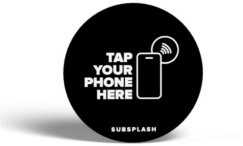
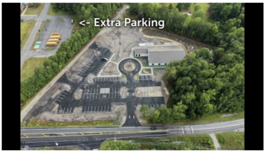
Grace Community Church of Topsail

July 26, 2026: Come and Ask Me For Good Gifts - Matthew 7:7-11


Friday-Sunday, August 21-23, 2026
Register via the Events Tab in the app
T-shirt cut-off: July 31st
Registration Ends: August 7th





Psalm 50:1–6 ESV

> The Mighty One, God the LORD,
> speaks and summons the earth
> from the rising of the sun to its setting.
> Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
> God shines forth.
>
> Our God comes; he does not keep silence;...

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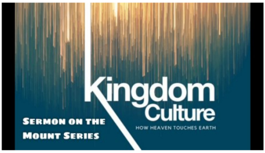
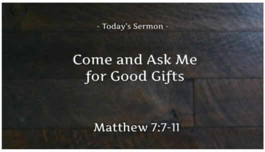
♫ God Of Wonders

♫ Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

♫ Come Thou Fount Come Thou King





- Today's Sermon -

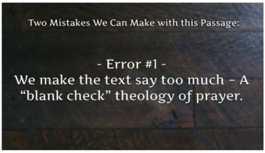
Come and Ask Me
for Good Gifts

Matthew 7:7-11

Matthew 7:7–11 ESV

> “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 the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for...

Continue reading »



Two Mistakes We Can Make with this Passage:

- Error #1 -
We make the text say too much – A “blank check” theology of prayer.

Matthew 7:1–6 ESV

> “Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own...

Continue reading »

Luke 11:11–13 ESV

> What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly...

Continue reading »

Matthew 26:36–39 ESV

> Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, “My...

Continue reading »

2 Corinthians 12:7–10 ESV

> So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this,...

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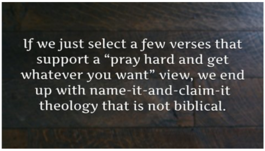

If we just select a few verses that support a "pray hard and get whatever you want" view, we end up with name-it-and-claim-it theology that is not biblical.

James 4:2–3 ESV

> You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

Continue reading »

Isaiah 59:1–2 ESV

> Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,
> or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;
> but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God,
> and your sins have hidden his face from you...

Continue reading »

1 John 5:14–15 ESV

> And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

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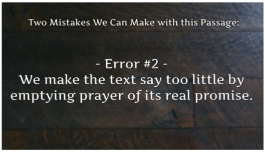
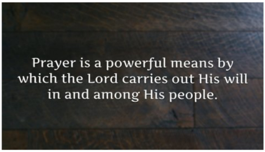


Two Mistakes We Can Make with this Passage:

- Error #2 -
We make the text say too little by emptying prayer of its real promise.



Prayer is a powerful means by which the Lord carries out His will in and among His people.

Proverbs 15:29 ESV

> The LORD is far from the wicked,
> but he hears the prayer of the righteous.

Continue reading »

James 5:13–17 ESV

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of...

Continue reading »

James 1:5–8 ESV

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind....

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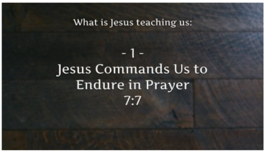

What is Jesus teaching us:

- 1 -
Jesus Commands Us to
Endure in Prayer
7:7

Matthew 7:7 ESV

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

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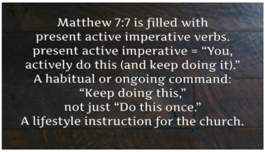
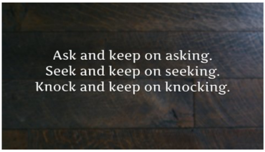
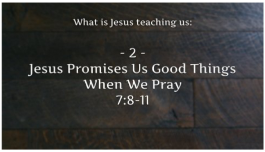


Matthew 7:7 is filled with
present active imperative verbs.
present active imperative = “You,
actively do this (and keep doing it).”
A habitual or ongoing command:
“Keep doing this,”
not just “Do this once.”
A lifestyle instruction for the church.



Ask and keep on asking.
Seek and keep on seeking.
Knock and keep on knocking.



What is Jesus teaching us:

- 2 -
Jesus Promises Us Good Things
When We Pray
7:8-11

Matthew 7:8–11 ESV

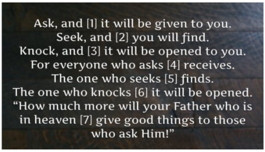
For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who...

Continue reading »

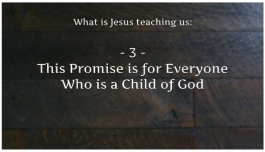
Jeremiah 33:2–3 ESV

“Thus says the LORD who made the earth, the LORD who formed it to establish it—the LORD is his name: Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

Continue reading »

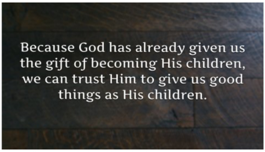


Ask, and [1] it will be given to you.
Seek, and [2] you will find.
Knock, and [3] it will be opened to you.
For everyone who asks [4] receives.
The one who seeks [5] finds.
The one who knocks [6] it will be opened.
“How much more will your Father who is in heaven [7] give good things to those who ask Him!”



What is Jesus teaching us:

- 3 -
This Promise is for Everyone Who is a Child of God



Because God has already given us the gift of becoming His children, we can trust Him to give us good things as His children.

John 1:12–13 ESV

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

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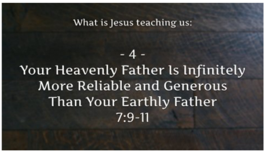

What is Jesus teaching us:

- 4 -
Your Heavenly Father Is Infinitely More Reliable and Generous Than Your Earthly Father
7:9-11

Matthew 7:9–11 ESV

Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven...

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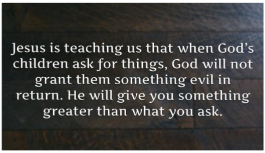
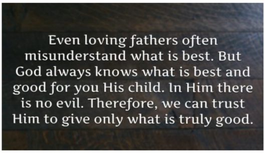
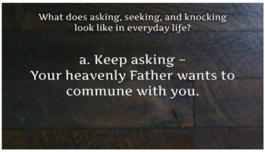


Jesus is teaching us that when God's children ask for things, God will not grant them something evil in return. He will give you something greater than what you ask.

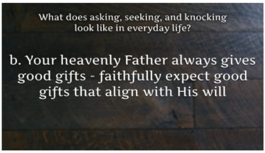


Even loving fathers often misunderstand what is best. But God always knows what is best and good for you His child. In Him there is no evil. Therefore, we can trust Him to give only what is truly good.



What does asking, seeking, and knocking look like in everyday life?

a. Keep asking –
Your heavenly Father wants to commune with you.



What does asking, seeking, and knocking look like in everyday life?

b. Your heavenly Father always gives good gifts - faithfully expect good gifts that align with His will

Luke 18:1–8 ESV

> And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying,...

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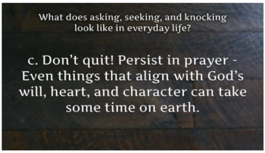
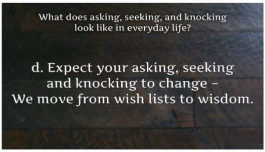


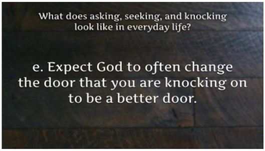
What does asking, seeking, and knocking look like in everyday life?

c. Don't quit! Persist in prayer -
Even things that align with God's will, heart, and character can take some time on earth.

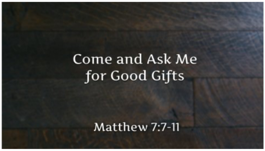


What does asking, seeking, and knocking look like in everyday life?

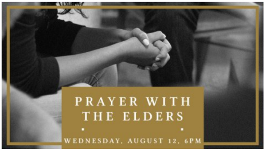
d. Expect your asking, seeking and knocking to change –
We move from wish lists to wisdom.


What does asking, seeking, and knocking look like in everyday life?

e. Expect God to often change the door that you are knocking on to be a better door.


Come and Ask Me for Good Gifts

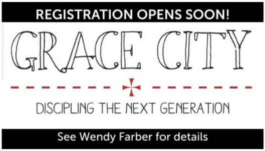
Matthew 7:7-11


PRAYER WITH THE ELDERS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 6PM

♫ At The Cross (Love Ran Red)

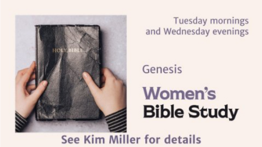
♫ Holy Forever


REGISTRATION OPENS SOON!

GRACE CITY

DISCIPLING THE NEXT GENERATION

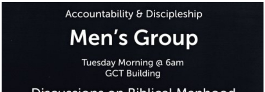
See Wendy Farber for details


Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings

Genesis

Women's Bible Study

See Kim Miller for details


Accountability & Discipleship

Men's Group

Tuesday Morning @ 6am
GCT Building

Discussions on Biblical Manhood

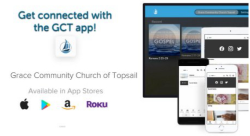
Discussions on Biblical Manhood

Friday-Sunday, August 21-23, 2026

Register via the Events Tab in the app

T-shirt cut-off: July 31st
Registration Ends: August 7th

Volunteers Needed for Monthly Baby Pantry Ministry

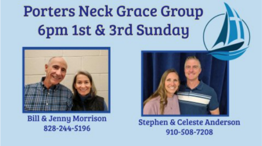

Get connected with the GCT app!

Grace Community Church of Topsail

Available in App Stores

GRACE GROUPS

Ready to Grow in GRACE Together? Contact any of our Grace Group Leaders for More Information


Porters Neck Grace Group
6pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

Bill & Jenny Morrison
828-244-5196

Stephen & Celeste Anderson
910-508-7208

Castle Hayne Grace Group
1st Sunday at 5pm & 3rd Friday at 6.30pm

Bobby & Wendy Rosinbaum
910-602-0121

Rob & Harriet Sullivan
919-917-5988

Washington Acres Grace Group
6pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

Ben & Ashlyn Regier
910-431-5646

Warren & Miriam Rich
910-622-1711

Country Club Drive Grace Group
6pm Every Friday

Tom & Kimberly Miller
920-737-6445

Max & Melissa Luke
910-619-0168

South Belvedere Grace Group
6pm 1st & 3rd Friday

Jim & Deborah Farmer
910-470-0424

Evan & Micaela Head
910-547-1999

North Belvedere Grace Group
5pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

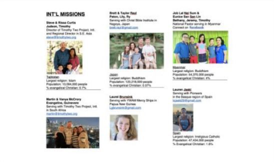
Bob & Necey Highet
910-785-1247

Tom & Barbara Sheldon
410-610-7123

Holly Ridge/Sneads Ferry Grace Group
6pm Friday, Every 2 weeks

Cooper & Madison Strand
501-545-6845

Taylor & Becca Hess



INT'L MISSIONS

Steve & Rissa Curtis
Judson, Timothy
Director of Timothy Two Project, Intl.
and Regional Director in S.E. Asia
steve@timothytwo.org

Tajikistan
Largest religion: Islam
Population: 10,094,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 0.7%

Martin & Vanya McCrory
Evangeline, Guinevere
Serving with Timothy Two Project, Intl.
in South Africa
martin@timothytwo.org

Brett & Taylor Rayl
Paton, Lily, Ry
Serving with Christ Bible Institute in
Nagoya, Japan
brett.rayl@gmail.com

Japan
Largest religion: Buddhism
Population: 123,218,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 0.57%

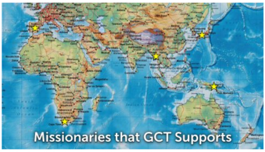
Laurel Brunsink
Serving with YWAM Mercy Ships in
Papua New Guinea
Lgbrunsink@gmail.com

Job Lal Nei Sum &
Eunice San San Lin
Bethany, Jeremy, Timothy
National Pastor serving in Myanmar
Connect on facebook

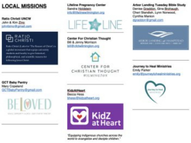
Myanmar
Largest religion: Buddhism
Population: 54,370,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 4%

Lauren Jaski
Serving with Pioneers
in the Basque region of Spain
lcjaski29@gmail.com

Spain
Largest religion: Irreligious Catholic
Population: 47,434,000 people
% Evangelical Christian: 1.8%



Missionaries that GCT Supports



LOCAL MISSIONS

Ratio Christi UNCW
John & Kim Zino
johnfzino@gmail.com

GCT Baby Pantry
Mary Copeland
GCTBabyPantry@gmail.com

Lifeline Pregnancy Center
Sandra Holdstein
info@lifelinewilmington.org

Center For Christian Thought
Bill & Jenny Morrison
bill@cfctwilmington.org

KidzAtHeart
Becca Hess
bhess@kidzatheart.org

"Equipping indigenous churches across the world to evangelize and disciple children."

Arbor Landing Tuesday Bible Study
Denise Graddon, Gina Brohaugh, Cheri Standish, Lynn Norwood, Cynthia Manion
dgraddon@gmail.com

Journey to Heal Ministries
Emily Parker
emily@journeytohealministries.org

RATIO CHRISTI
LIFE LINE
CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN THOUGHT
WILMINGTON
BELOVED
KidZ at Heart
ARBOR LANDING at HAMPSTEAD

Prayer Before Sunday Morning Worship, meets at 9AM in Media classroom. Open to all!

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances." — 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Malachi 3:16 Prayer Group

Meets Fridays @ 10am

GCT Business Directory

Looking for a handyman?
Need your house power washed?
Need a babysitter?
Need an Uber?

Send your business info to Stacy Leicht to be added to a list of services provided by GCT members

Yellow Pages
☐ New! Easier to use
☐ Great days out
☐ Local maps

GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF TOPSAIL

Grace Community Church of Topsail

11 members