

Make Christ Known Through Answered Prayers

Matthew 7:7-12

Introduction:

"When you think about the subject of God answering our prayers, what comes to mind? Is He reluctant to give? Is He stingy?"

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, **Luke 6:38**

"Our prayer may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."
- Max Lucado

I. An affirmation on how Christ desires to answer our prayers. (V. 7-8)

A. The privilege of prayer is affirmed before us.

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: **Matthew 7:7**

In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him. **Ephesians 3:12**

B. The provision of prayer is affirmed before us.

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. **Matthew 7:8**

"Ask, seek, and knock. All three words are in the continuous present tense, so they mean to keep on asking, seeking, and knocking. All three commands are also accompanied by a response from God. His people receive, find, and have the door opened to them."
- David Jeremiah

II. An analogy on how Christ desires to answer our prayers. (V. 9-10)

A. It is an analogy about the nature of God's giving.

Shows Motive: ***Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?*** **Matthew 7:9**

(Christ never seeks to deceive us when he answers our prayers.)

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. **James 1:5**

B. It is an analogy about the knowledge of God's giving.

Shows Wisdom: ***Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?*** **Matthew 7:10**

(Christ never seeks to harm us when He answers our prayers.)

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. **James 1:17**

III. An allegory on how Christ desires to answer prayers. (V. 11)

A. The comparison of a human's ability to give.

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, **Matthew 7:11**

B. The capability of Heaven's ability to give.

. . . how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? **Matthew 7:11**

"We always talk about our duty to God and indeed we are duty-bound. But, God also has a duty to you. He is honor-bound to take care of you, His child. He is not going to take a vacation to Acapulco and leave us alone. We can count on His care, correction, compassion, and companionship."
- Adrian Rogers

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? **Romans 8:32**