

Asking, Seeking, & Knocking
Sermon on the Mount Series — Part 11

Matthew 7:7–11
Pastor Larry Hof

Key Truth: Ask, seek, and knock are not three disconnected actions. They describe a functioning Christian life **IN Christ**—prayer, Scripture, and obedient living.

I. ASK — Praying

Yielding Our Spirit to the Holy Spirit

Matthew 7:7–8

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

For every one that asketh receiveth...”

Asking is praying, supplicating, and bringing our burdens to our Heavenly Father.

The abundant Christian life begins with a genuine **prayer life**.

Supporting Scriptures:

Psalms 10:17 • Psalm 86:5 • Psalm 145:18–19 • Jeremiah 33:3 • Mark 11:24 • John 14:13–14 • John 15:7 • John 16:23–24 • James 1:5–6 • 1 John 5:14–15

Statement:

It all starts with the ASK. Before I search for an answer, I need to seek the One who has it.

Notes:

II. SEEK — Searching the Scriptures

Subjecting Our Soul to God's Truth

After asking, we don't simply sit around waiting for an answer.

We SEEK.

- Ask for **God's Will** — Seek His Word.
- Ask for **God's Way** — Seek His Word.
- Ask for **God's Wisdom** — Seek His Word.

Supporting Scriptures:

Matthew 6:33 • Proverbs 8:17 • Hebrews 11:6

Statement:

If I'm asking God to speak while leaving my Bible closed, I may be ignoring the very place He's already given me the answer.

Notes:

III. KNOCK — Living IN Christ**Obedying What God Has Given and Shown Us**

We **ASK** God.

We **SEEK** His truth.

Then we **KNOCK** by walking in what He has shown us.

- Ask for wisdom → Seek wisdom → **Walk in wisdom.**
- Ask for direction → Seek direction → **Walk in that direction.**
- Receive God's truth → **Live God's truth.**

God the Father has opened **the Door—Jesus Christ**—and given us what we need to walk with Him.

Supporting Scripture:

Isaiah 55:6–7

Statement:

Don't keep asking God for direction if you're unwilling to walk through the door He opens.

Notes:

IV. TRUST THE FATHER**Matthew 7:9–11**

*“Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?
Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?”*

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?"

Jesus brings everything back to **relationship**.

If an earthly father desires good for his children, **how much more can we trust our Heavenly Father?**

Statement:

I'm wicked. God is wonderful! If I want good for my children, how much more does my perfect Heavenly Father know what is good for me?

ASK • SEEK • KNOCK

ASK

Bring it to **God in prayer**.

SEEK

Search for **God's answer in His Word**.

KNOCK

Walk in **obedience to what He has shown you**.

It starts with the ASK—but the purpose isn't simply to make my life better for me. The purpose is to live my life better for HIM.