

The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those
Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-7:12

Matthew 7:7-12

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

True Righteousness & Heavenly Blessings Are Obtainable!

The Sermon On The Mount

Chapter 5 - The Kingdom Citizen's



- * **Character: (5:3-12)**
- * **Influence upon the world: (5:13-16)**
- * **Righteousness **MUST EXCEED** the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees: (5:17-20)**
- * **Dealings with others: (5:21-48)**

The Sermon On The Mount

Chapter 6 - "Two Great Threats To Our Right Standing Before God"

**Pride & Arrogance
Tempt Us To Seek
The Favor of Men
Rather Than God**

◆ *Benevolence – 6:2-4*

◆ *Prayer – 6:5-15*

◆ *Fasting – 6:16-18*

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**The World Can
Have A Negative
Influence Over
our Priorities &
Faith**

◆ *Covetousness -6:19-23*

◆ *Divided heart - 26:4*

◆ *Anxiety – 6:25-34*



Either way - We Forfeit Any Reward From God

The Sermon On The Mount

"Judge not, that you be not judged."

Judgment Without Mercy Forbidden - (7:1-6)

Wise Discrimination Essential

Look Out For Logs – Dogs – Hogs – Wolves



Mat 7:3



Mat 7:6



Mat 7:6



Mat 7:15-20

Look Not To Condemn, But To Help!



Ask

And it shall be given to you.

Seek

And you will find.

Knock

*And the door will be opened
to you.*

Matthew 7:7-11

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

A General Principle



- ~ We ask for what we want & think we need -
- ~ We seek for what we value -
- ~ We knock for that from which we feel ourselves shut out -
- ~ You get what you ask for – you find that for which you seek – you do what is necessary to get what you really want! (Gal 6:7-9)

Asking, Seeking & Knocking⁷

Matthew 7:7-12 (NKJV)

⁷ "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?

Asking, Seeking & Knocking⁸

Matthew 7:7-12 (NKJV)

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! ¹² Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Righteousness of the Kingdom Can Be Found By All Who Truly Desire It - "Ask, Seek, & Knock" - (7-8)



Ask

Faith / Trust

Seek

Diligently Pursue

Knock

Submission / Obedience

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Righteousness of the Kingdom Can Be Found By All Who Truly Desire It - "Ask, Seek, & Knock" - (7-8)



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Submission / Obedience

In the Greek Present Tense -
Literally, Jesus is saying "keep on asking, seeking & knocking"

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Ask & you will receive - (7:7,8)

7 . . . Ask, and it will be given to you... " 8 For everyone who asks receives,



- ◆ **Powerfully comforting!**
- ◆ **Susceptible to serious misunderstanding**
- ◆ **Does NOT apply to just any request.**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Ask & you will receive - (7:7,8)

7 . . . Ask, and it will be given to you... " 8 For everyone who asks receives,



- ✦ **NOT teaching that God is like a mythological genie!**
- ✦ **Teaching similar to John 6:35-51 - i.e., All who learn & believe will have life & not be turned away!**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Many Will NOT Receive!



- ◆ **Self-serving hypocrites - 5:21-48**
- ◆ **Ritualistic / self serving in their worship - 6:1-18**
- ◆ **Covetous / uncommitted / divided in their loyalty - 6:19-24**
- ◆ **Driven to worry about things beyond their control - 6:25-34**
- ◆ **Proud, condescending, self righteous judges - 7:1-5**
- ◆ **Uninterested in the gospel - 7:6**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Many Will **NOT** Receive!

James 1:6-8 (NKJV)

⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.



Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Ask & you will receive - (7:7,8)

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Who DOES receive?

- ✦ **Those who possess the character of the kingdom citizen - 5:3-12**
- ✦ **The truly righteous - 5:20**
- ✦ **Those wanting to please God - 6:1-18**
- ✦ **Those who make God their priority & focus - 6:19-23**
- ✦ **Those loyal to God and trust Him - 6:24-34**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Ask & you will receive - (7:7,8)

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Who DOES receive?

- ◆ **Those who ask in faith, without doubting!! – James 1:5,6**
- ◆ **Those who obey and worship God – John 9:31**
- ◆ **Those who ask according to God's will – 1 John 5:14,15**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Ask & you will receive - (7:7,8)

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Receive What?

- ◆ **Blessedness – 5:3-12**
- ◆ **Godly Influence – 5:13-16**
- ◆ **Right standing before God, thus rewarded by Him – 6:1-18**
- ◆ **Physical needs & eternal treasures – 6:19-34**
- ◆ **Mercy – 7:1-6**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Seek & You Will Find - (7:7,8)

7 "... seek, and you will find; 8 "... he who seeks finds"



Seeking What?

**Jeremiah 29:12-13
(NKJV)**

¹² Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Seek & You Will Find - (7:7,8)

7 "... seek, and you will find; 8 "... he who seeks finds"



Seeking What?

- ✦ **True blessedness - 5:1-13**
- ✦ **Being who we ought to be, "perfect" - 5:17-48**
- ✦ **Being rewarded by God by pleasing Him - 6:1-18**
- ✦ **Eternal treasures - 6:19-33**
- ✦ **Mercy - 7:1-6**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Seek & You Will Find - (7:7,8)

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Seeking What?

The one who seeks with a sincere desire to obtain the righteousness expected of him in the kingdom will find all blessings associated with it! -

(Mat 5:6; 6:33; Eph 1:3-14; Phili 4:4-13)

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Seek & You Will Find - (7:7,8)

7 "... seek, and you will find; 8 "... he who seeks finds"



Seeking How?

- ◆ **Developing godly character - 5:3-12**
- ◆ **Letting our light shine - 5:13-16**
- ◆ **Doing what is right in our dealings with others - 5:17-48**
- ◆ **Seeking to please God in our deeds, worship & service - 6:1-18**
- ◆ **Putting God's kingdom and His righteousness FIRST - 6:19-33**
- ◆ **Being merciful to others - 7:1-6**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Seek & You Will Find - (7:7,8)

7 "... seek, and you will find; 8 "... he who seeks finds"



Seeking How?

- ◆ **With Diligence, -**
Prov. 8:17; Heb. 11:6
- ◆ **Perseverance -**
Rom. 2:7; Heb 10:35,36
- ◆ **Through "Bible Study" -**
Acts 17:11, 2 Tim 2:15
- ◆ **Applying God's Word -**
Jam. 1:21-25; 2 Pet 1:5-10

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Knock & It Will Be Opened To You - (7:7,8)

7 "... knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 ... and to him who knocks it will be opened.



Knock For What?

- ✦ **After making a sincere request & having searched diligently - one arrives at the door of the kingdom -**
- ✦ **One now knocks out of desperation for that which he/she is shut out that he/she may enter -**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Knock & It Will Be Opened To You - (7:7,8)

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Knock How?

- ✦ **Through faith one will ask**
- ✦ **Faith & desire will motivate one to SEEK –**
- ✦ **Faithful seeking will bring one to the door of God's grace, mercy and blessings**
- ✦ **Knocking is the acceptance and submission to the terms which our diligent search has found! - Rom 10:14-17**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Knock & It Will Be Opened To You - (7:7,8)

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Knock How?

- ◆ **Hear – Rom 10:17**
- ◆ **Believe – John 8:24**
- ◆ **Repent – Acts 17:30**
- ◆ **Confess – Rom 10:9,10**
- ◆ **Be Baptized – 1 Pet 3:21**
- ◆ **Continue in the apostles doctrine – Acts 2:42**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

God Gives Good Gifts To His Children - (9-11)



- ✦ **Men give good gifts to their children who ask**
- ✦ **How much more so will our Father in heaven!**
- ✦ **A good parent will not always confer the very thing which a child asks,**
- ✦ **Paul asked that his thorn in the flesh be removed. 2 Co 12:7-9.**

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

Some might despair before the lofty demands of the gospel - BUT ...



Acts 8:30-39

God & His blessings are available to all who sincerely inquire -

God & His blessings are obtainable to all who diligently pursue -

The demands of the kingdom citizen are NOT too hard for the willing!

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

The kingdom described and extolled is now offered to every humble, contrite & submissive heart.



Acts 8:30-39

**What must I do to be saved -
Acts 2:37; 16:30; 2:42**

**Search & Receive God's word -
Acts 17:11,12; James 1:21**

**Obedient - doers of the word -
Mat 7:21; James 1:24**

The Sermon On The Mount

Asking, Seeking & Knocking

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Luke 11:5-13 (NKJV)

⁵ And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; ⁶ for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; ⁷ and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'?"

Luke 11:5-13 (NKJV)

⁸ I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs. ⁹ "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Luke 11:5-13 (NKJV)

¹¹ If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he asks* for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 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!"