

"Asking In Prayer" Matthew 7:7-11 May 8, 2022

Fun Question: What's a common experience for many people that you've never experienced?

Matthew 7:7-11, Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

9 Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

- 1. According to Matthew 7:7-11, we find that the essence of prayer is asking God for the things we need and want. Have you ever felt guilty or embarrassed about coming to God with personal needs and wants? Explain why you might have felt this way.
- 2. Asking is not the same as demanding. Share about the times you were *demanding* things from God, as well as the times you were *asking* from Him. Describe the circumstances and heart posture that led to the two different ways of approaching God in prayer.
- 3. God who is unchanging and perfect, responds to prayer. How have you witnessed God work on your behalf (and others) through your prayers?

Deeper Study

1. Read and study 2 Kings: 1-11. What can we learn about the character of God and prayer?