

A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of April 3, 2022

Ask, Seek, Knock

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from Matthew 7:7-11

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 the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹ 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 give good things to those who ask him!

- How do you personally know God is good?
- When is it difficult for you to pray? Why?
- What three commands does Jesus give in v.7? What would be examples of prayer in light of these commands?
- What do you need to believe to exercise this kind of prayer?
- Jesus asks two rhetorical questions (9-10). What is His point?
- How would you describe the hypothetical father in Jesus' illustration?
- Jesus uses the illustration to teach us something about God.
 What does Jesus want us to see? (11)
- In a parallel passage (<u>Luke 11:9-13</u>), Jesus tells us that the ultimate Good Thing (11) our Father gives those who ask is the Holy Spirit. What might that promise teach us about the heart and purpose of prayer?
- For Jesus (<u>Luke 3:31-22</u>) and for His people (<u>Romans 8:15-16</u>), the gift of the Spirt always leads us to greater joy and confidence that God is our loving, faithful Heavenly Father.
 Repent and pray together in light of this week's passage. Take Jesus at His word: Ask, Seek, and Knock. Ask our good Father for more of His good Spirit.