

“Our God Is a Good God” Matthew 7:7-11

“How much more will your Father in heaven give...!”

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

God is not reluctant to give!

“If you sinful people (or evil people) know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him?”
– Matthew 7:11

It’s true. *All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.* (Romans 3:23) It’s not a statement of judgment here; Jesus is only comparing the love of a father or mother to the kind of love God has for us!

“Considering that God was the initiator of the prayer relationship turned everything upside down... God was already present. God was waiting for me to respond to His invitation. All I had to do was say yes.” – Jane E. Vennard

Alexander the Great: "Let him have it all. I like that fellow. He does me a great honor. He treats me like a king and proves by what he asks that he believes me to be both rich and generous."

"In the same way, we should go to the throne of God and present petitions that express great views of the love, riches, and bounty of our King." – John Newton

THREE REASONS WHY WE SHOULD PERSEVERE IN PRAYER:

1. Prayer Is Conditional

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. – Ephesians 6:18

2. Every Believer Is Heard and Every Prayer Is Answered

One of the great tragedies in the church is how little yearning you have to pray.

John Piper: “When you pause to think that that God is infinitely strong and can do all that He pleases, and that He is infinitely righteous so that He only does what is right, and He is infinitely good so that everything He does is perfectly good, and that He is infinitely wise so He always knows perfectly what is right and good, and that He is infinitely loving so in all His strength and righteousness and goodness and wisdom He raises the eternal joy of His loved ones as high as it can be raised – when you pause to consider this –

then the generous invitation from this God to ask Him for good things, with the promise that He will give them, is unimaginably wonderful."

To all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God. – John 1:12

Will you receive everything you asked for, when you asked for it, the way you want it?

If you could, at your word, make God do something, you’d be God, wouldn’t you? “Everything I tell Him to do, He does.” You’d be God.

3. God Cares Much More than an Earthly Father Cares

He put within the hearts of fathers an instinctive attachment and love and desire to care for his children. In fact, it’s a reflection of His own heart!

The God of love wants to give good gifts to you!

Then we will know from where our gifts come! We can proclaim glory unto God! He gives us our testimony!

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God... – Romans 8:15-16

Invitation:

Have you experienced the peace of God through this threatening pandemic?

We can be anxious because we fail to trust the God who invites us into a friendship with Himself. If this anxiety lasts, then it forms thought patterns of negativity from which a rut of fear is cut into the mind so that we sink into that awful rut of depression.

We can trust God’s love even when we’re in this “in between time” of asking for and receiving relief from the social isolation and threat of a deadly virus.

God wants you to know that nothing is going to happen of which He’s not already aware.

Spiritual Formation Invitation:

ZOOM Study with the Pastor:

Good News: Encouragement for a Word in Crisis
from the You Version Bible app

Contact Pastor Kevin at 304 638-4840