



NOVEMBER 19, 2023
KEEP ASKING FOR THE KINGDOM
MATTHEW 7:7-12

Introduction

1. Ask, Seek, Knock
2. No Really- Keep Asking, Keep Seeking, Keep Knocking
3. Ask, Seek, Knock Because You Have A Good Father

Big Idea: We can go to God with our continued asking and seeking and knocking because He is a Good Father who loves to give us good things.

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed** to the **mission** of Jesus. (Matthew 4:19)*

HARBOR OF HOPE
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Reflection Questions for Groups or Individuals:

1. *We said that God wants us to come to Him like a child. How have you experienced a child who is fearless to ask their parents for what they want?*
2. *How does it change your understanding of this passage to know that the verbs “ask, seek, and knock” are present tense verbs- which in the Greek means they are continuous?*
3. *How has your relationships with your parents impacted the way you see God as a Father?*
4. *Read Exodus 34:6b-7a together as a group:
“The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin.”*

What resonates with you about this picture of God as a Father? What encourages you?

5. *Is there anything that you are looking for from God in this season? Any question you have for Him? Any wisdom you need? Imagine God, like April Gibbs as Santa, with His arms outstretched- “I’m so glad you’re here! I’ve been waiting for you!” And then talk to Him about what is on your heart.*
6. *We’ve said that disciple is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed to the mission** of Jesus. As we follow Jesus, committed to His mission of ushering in the Kingdom of God- how can we be changed by Him in terms of how we view God as our Father? How will this impact our ability to participate in Jesus’ mission?*

Discovery Bible Study Method for Groups or Individuals

(for more information on this method of Bible study- see <https://www.dbsguide.org/>)

1. Talk: To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Who needs our help? How can this group help them?

2. Look Back (session 2+)

- Retell story from the previous meeting.
- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction?

3. Read & Re-tell

- One person reads the Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along.
- Someone else retells the passage by memory, if possible. Others can fill in what is missing.

4. Look

- Read the passage again.
- Discuss what this passage says about God, Jesus or his plan.

5. Look again

- Read the passage once more
- Discuss what this passage says about humans
- Discuss what this passage says about being a disciple of Jesus

6. Inside me

- According to this study, what am I doing well?
- What do I need to change?

7. Who else?

- Who needs to hear this story?
- How can I tell them?
- Who can I invite to study the Bible?

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