

## WHAT DO YOU WANT?

Matthew 7:7-12

11-5-23

### THREE AREAS TO FOCUS ON WHEN ASKING GOD FOR SOMETHING

#### 1. Our responsibility in approaching God

*Matthew 7:7-8 - "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."*

##### Imperatives from Jesus when approaching God:

- ~ Keep it simple
- ~ Be persistent
- ~ Pursue intensely/progressively
- ~ Focus on the promises

#### 2. God's heart in answering our prayers

*Matthew 7:9-11 - "Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? 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!"*

##### Truths about God to remember when approaching Him with a request:

- ~ He hears our requests
- ~ He's better than we can comprehend
- ~ What He gives is always meant for good

#### 3. God already knows what we need

*Matthew 7:12 - "So whatever you wish others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."*

## COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you about the message this week?
2. What is something you asked God for recently? How has He answered that prayer?
3. What promise do you hold on to when God doesn't answer a prayer the way you want?
4. What things do you pray for regularly and why?
5. How do you trust the goodness of God even when things go bad? Give an example.
6. Why do we not pray more, knowing that it deepens our intimacy with God?
7. What can you do to create a healthier pattern of prayer?
8. Which of God's attributes causes you to pray most? Why?