



ASK, SEEK, KNOCK

August 15, 2021 // Tyler Scott, Lead Pastor

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In the eleventh week of THE GOAT, the Greatest Sermon Of All Time, taught by **JESUS**, the Greatest Teacher Of All Time, Jesus tells us to persist in pursuing God. This week we look at Matthew 7:7-11 where we are told to ASK, SEEK and KNOCK.

READ Matthew 7:7-8.

DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Are you persistent when it comes to prayer, or do you give up easily? Why?

READ Matthew 7:9-11. If the child had asked for a poisonous snake, would the wise father say yes? Sometimes God knows we are asking for “snakes”, and does not give us what we ask.

DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Share a time when God said “no” and later you were glad He did.

In today’s message we will look at...

WHY we don’t pray

HOW we should pray

WHO we’re praying to

WHY WE DON’T PRAY:

1. We don’t believe God is there, or really cares.
2. We think it’s unnecessary, because we’re in control.
3. We wonder: “What’s the point of asking a God who already knows everything?”
4. We are cynical because of past unanswered prayers.

DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Of the 4 reasons Tyler gave for "Why we don't pray" more often, which resonates with you the most, and why?

Prayer makes things happen!

READ James 5:17-18. Our most powerful resource is a relationship with God through prayer. It is easy to go to prayer as a last resort. Why is this approach backwards for a Christian?

Based on scripture, we have to acknowledge that our prayers work and are woven into God's sovereign actions.

"God will either give us what we ask or give us what we would have asked if we knew everything He knew." -Tim Keller, Author

HOW WE SHOULD PRAY:

READ Matthew 7:7-8. How should we pray? Why?

READ Luke 11:5-8. To practice persistence does more to change our hearts and minds than God's.

DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Have you ever prayed with persistence--with shameless audacity--for something? What was it? What happened? What are you praying for next in that way?

God the Father hears your prayers and He answers yes, no or not yet.

WHO WE'RE PRAYING TO:

READ Hebrews 4:16. Prayer is our connection to God. What does this passage say about how we are to approach Him?

READ 1 John 5:14-15. When we communicate with God, we don't demand what we want, rather we discuss with Him what He wants for us. Is that difficult to do?

READ Jeremiah 29:12-13. How do you seek Him with your whole heart?

COMMIT TO MEMORY: Matthew 7:7-8