



## A.S.K.

December 31, 2023 Message Notes

*TEXT: "Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7*

A.S.K. – Ask. Seek. Knock.

Is there something that comes to mind that was a BIG answer to prayer?



# NOTES

## **Our Ways God Answers Prayer:**

**No** – when the request is not right

**Grow** – when you're not right

**Slow** – when the time's not right

**Go!** – when everything's right

“You have not because you ask not.” James 4:2 KJV

“Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” Matthew 7:7

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.”

Luke 12:32

“Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance but laying hold of His willingness.”

**Martin Luther**

God has invited us to ask, seek, and knock expecting an answer, expecting His blessing, His peace.



“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done.” Philippians 4:6 NLT

“My God will meet all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

“The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him.” 2 Chronicles 16:9

“I know the plans I have for you...plans to give you hope and a future...You will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

Jeremiah 29:11-13

That means we bring passion into it - focused attention from the heart.

“Call to me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things which you do not know.”

Jeremiah 33:3 NKJV



“Ask and keep on asking; seek and keep on seeking; knock and keep on knocking...” **P.U.S.H.- Pray Until Something Happens**

Ask big!

“Say to this mountain, ‘Move!’” Matthew 17:20

“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” Mark 11:24

“You are coming to a king, large petitions with you will you bring; for his grace and power are such, you can never ask too much”. **John Newton**

“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” Ephesians 3:20-21

Jesus is saying to His church, pray: ask, seek, knock. God is available to do the immeasurably more.

But we have to ask according to His will, don't we?



“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him.”

1 John 5:14-15

This promise isn't to discourage our asking, but to encourage our seeking out His will.

But sometimes we don't know what His will is.

“Lord, if you have something better, then that's what we want.” **Dr. Henry Blackabee**

God is bigger than this life. This life is not all there is. Suffering is never easy. But even in our suffering, God is present.

**P**rayer

**R**eleases

**A**ll

**Y**our

**E**ternal

**R**esources



When we have moments that we don't understand on this side, we can trust God who carries us all the way through.

“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it (a thorn in the flesh) away from me. But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’” 2 Corinthians 12:9

God's 'no' to Paul became an even bigger opportunity for more. Not just to grow but to show God's overcoming strength and power in Paul's weakness.

God is not a vending machine, or a genie on a bottle, or a karma force in the universe. God is a person who wants a personal relationship with you.

He is a God of love who is attentive and responsive to the needs of His children.

“There is no pit so deep that God is not deeper still.”  
Corrie Ten Boom

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.”  
Matthew 11:28



“The one who comes to me I will by no means cast out.”  
John 6:37 NKJV

### **Ask. Seek. Knock.**

“Your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask...”  
Matthew 6:8

“This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.’”  
Matthew 6:9-13

God sees you, knows you, loves you, and gets you. He wants you in connection with him.

You are made in the image of Almighty God, redeemed by the Son of God, and transformed by the Spirit of God.

Our world needs to see somebody, you, who is walking through the challenges with a God who loves and is filling you to the point that He can express himself through you to others.



**Let's make this a year of prayer, not just for ourselves  
but for others.**

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