

Personal Prayer.

Discussion Notes on Matthew 7:7-12 & Luke 11:5-13
For Home Groups week beginning 3rd May 2010.

Welcome

Q1: *When did you last ask for something and what was it?*

Word - Please read Matthew 7:7-12 and Luke 11:5-13 (the repeated section reinforces the passage).

Q2: *Why should we pray if God knows what we need anyway (see Matthew 6v32)?*

In Matthew 6v33, Jesus tells us to seek first 1) his kingdom and 2) his righteousness and then 3) all these other things will be given to us as well

Q3: *What does it mean to seek God's kingdom in our life?*

Q4: *What does it mean to seek his righteousness in our life?*

Q5: *What are these other things that will be given to us as well?*

Q6: *In Matthew 7v7-8 what is it that we are asking for, seeking and finding? See Luke 11v13. How does this help us when we are worrying about all sorts of things?*

Q7: *Is Jesus saying we should pray this prayer once and for all in our life or is it a constant Prayer?*

Jesus uses the analogy of a man coming to his friend at midnight asking for some bread. Luke 11v5-8

Q8: *In Luke 11v5-8 talk about the basis in which the man's request is granted? (it is not because of the gravity of the request, and it is not because of the special equal nature of the two people's relationship). Note: this word "boldness" actually means "shameless impudence".*

Only small children can get away with shameless impudence! (and then only if they are ours!).

Q9: *Therefore on what basis does God entertain our presence, and answer our prayers (Matthew 7v11)*

Q10: *So does God answer our requests because 1) our need is so important that it demands the personal attention of the God of the Cosmos; or 2) because we are God's friends. So how does this affect our prayer life? How many times should we pray? What should our expectations be? How will God's answer help us?*

Q11: *Therefore what is the point of Prayer? and what should we be Praying for ourselves?*