

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Applying this message to everyday life

1. Historically, which is the greater problem to your prayers; wrong answers or no answer? How do you persist in prayer even with these problems?
2. What practice(s) do you have in order to keep your prayer life vitalized?
3. What benefit does fasting add to your prayers?
4. Spend time together praying for each other according to anything that was shared during your Life Group today.

Prayer Matters
#585 – Ask, Seek, Knock
Matthew 7:7-11

GateWay Bible Church
January 21, 2018
Fred Hennes

Ask, Seek, Knock

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Matthew 7:7-8

Understanding the Command

At times, we may ask for things that we think are _____ but that would actually bring us _____ if we received them.

When we are more concerned about the _____ and reputation of God than we are concerned about our own _____ and _____, we will have a powerful basis for prayer.

Seek _____, before seeking His _____.

Prayer is much more than receiving _____ to requests. Prayer is an invitation to a _____ with God.

Knock and the Door Will be Opened to You

The primary door is a greater understanding of _____ (John 10:9)

A second door is a door of _____ (Acts 14:27)

Through faith, God will open up doors of ministry _____ (1 Corinthians 16:9)

These doors lead to a door of _____, to speak the mystery of Christ. (Colossians 4:3)

The prayer of a Christian is not an _____ to force God's hand, but a humble acknowledgement of _____ on Him.

GETTING-TO-KNOW-ME QUESTIONS

Sharing time to get your group started

- A. What is your favorite color? Why?
- B. As a child, did you have any routine prayer rituals? If so, what were they?
- C. Can you think of any situation where your parent(s) did not give you what you wanted, but later you realized this was for your best interest?

LIFE GROUP HOMEWORK

Jot down a brief answer to the following four questions

Quick Review

1. As you reflect on last week's sermon, what one principle or insight stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?
2. This same teaching on Ask, Seek, Knock is found in Luke 11:9-13. However, the prior verses starting at Luke 11:5 add an illustration about persistence in asking. Explain why is persistence important.
3. Read the account of Elijah's bold prayer and God's amazing answer in 1 Kings 18:16-40. What does this account teach you about prayer?
4. Read Daniel's prayer in Daniel 9:1-19. How does his prayer support all we that have learned about prayer so far in our series, Prayer Matters?