



Opening Question:

Has there ever been a time where you've had a prayer go unanswered (or answered in a way you didn't want), and later, you were grateful for the way things played out? Tell the story, if you feel comfortable.

Read: Matthew 7:7-11

Why do you think Jesus used these examples in this passage: ask, seek and knock?
What progression do you see in these actions?

What will we receive when we ask?

What do we find when we seek?

What is opened to us when we knock?



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Does this passage mean that God will give us whatever we ask for?

How might God want to shape the things that we desire in the way he loves us and answers our prayers? What is the ultimate goal?

What can we do when God doesn't answer a prayer the way we hope?
How can this passage shape our response?

How does this section of scripture fit in the larger context of the Sermon on the Mount that we've been studying? How does it relate to the themes of righteousness, trust, and God's kingdom?

What can we learn about God from these passages?

Is there anything you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to look at more closely?

Prayer:

Father, thank you for being a good and loving Father. Teach us to continuously ask for what we need, seek after your will, and knock continuously in prayer. Give us the faith to persevere until you answer one way or another, and to trust you in whatever that answer may be. In the name of Jesus, amen.

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