



PART 10: THE GIFT WE REALLY NEED

Sermon Notes

Text: Matthew 7:7-11

Introduction:

“Prayer...is the very way God himself has chosen for us to express our conscious need of him and our humble dependence on him” ~John Stott

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Deuteronomy 4:7

“There’s power in the ask”

Matthew 7:7-8

James 4:1-3

We don’t have what we want, because we’re not asking the only one who has everything we need.

If God’s primary purpose is to make us more like Jesus, then he will only give us gifts that align with that purpose. Anything else is harmful to us; it’s not in our best interest.

“Our Daddy in Heaven”

Matthew 7:9-11

James 1:17

Matthew 6:9

“Father” = “Abba” in Aramaic. Abba is best translated “daddy,” or “dada.”

We are as weak, frail, and dependant upon God as any toddler just learning to speak; yet, we are also just as loved, just as cared for, and just as valued.

1 John 3:1

“The Gift we Really Need”

The gifts of our Father are spiritual gifts.

Luke 11:13

God’s greatest desire is to give us the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion:

Romans 8:14-17

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What is the best gift (birthday, Christmas, etc) you have ever received? Why?
2. Why do you think God says “yes” to some prayers, and “no” to others? How should we respond when we don’t understand his decisions?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read James 4:1-2. Many consider the Book of James to be a commentary on the Sermon on the Mount. What parallels to the Sermon on the Mount do you see in these verses? What does this passage say about motives? What motives keep us from receiving God’s gifts? How do we examine and change our motives?
2. Read Romans 8:14-17. What stands out to you in this passage? What does it say about our relationship with God? What does it mean to be a child of God? What does it say about the role of the Holy Spirit?
3. Read Luke 11:5-13. What does this passage add to Matthew’s version? What do v. 5-8 tell us about prayer?

Application:

1. How will your prayers change this week when you consider the gifts we really need? Which gifts will you ask for? How will you pray for others?

Prayer:

1. Pray for those who want to ask God for the Holy Spirit.
2. Other requests
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