

## **ASK GOD, SEEK GOD, KNOCK THE DOOR OF GOD**

***“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; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.” (Matthew 7:7-8)***

As we walk with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, He teaches us new things everyday that help us to live a good life, a life that is pleasant to Him and a life to the full as He promised, ***“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” (John 10:10b)***

There are 3 keywords we will focus on this message that concerns our prayer life and how we spend our time fruitfully with God. We will study them in order to apply them appropriately in our lives.

***1- Ask God:*** “It is so simple; it is so easy to ask!” Yes that is right, but there are points you are not observing while you are asking God. The first and the most common is when any need arise like financial matter, physical or emotional necessity, or any need to solve a problem the first thing you do you start to ask people. At once you look in the horizontal direction. Suppose you face financial problem, your first response is to approach someone who is rich, “please can I borrow from you?” Or if you are under a threat, you think first who is with power and in suitable position that can protect you – the doctor, manager, supervisor, etc. – and you approach for help. Your first reaction is horizontal and you fail to rise up your head looking toward heaven and ask God for the help that you need, the provision that you require, and the shelter that you desire. You run from person to person, agency to agency, doctor to doctor, hospital to hospital, bank to bank but you forgot to ask God. You struggle to fulfill certain necessity, you may fight and quarrel, run and compete with one another but you do not ask God. ***“You do not have, because you do not ask God.” (James 4:2)***

Many times you meditate or disclose the problem and speak by yourselves but what you really need to do is to hand it over to God to solve as He promised: ***“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanks-giving present your requests to God.” (Philippians 4:6)***

You may accept God’s word and you do frequently ask Him, but you are not receiving. Because, ***“When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with a wrong motive, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.” (James 4:3)*** God in certain occasion does not give because you spend it in ways that are harmful to yourself or to other people. It is worthy to notice that you must ask God according to His will. ***“I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. 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 5:13-15)***

***2 – Seek God:*** When you go to a market to buy a thing, you already have certain criteria in mind. So you search and seek before you purchase. You spend time and effort. This may even cause you delay, and to spend not only time but money and effort also. You may not find what you want the 1<sup>st</sup> day and again you go the next day because you are seeking certain quality. In the same manner, in your prayer life with God you seek the good quality of answered prayers. But good things you receive when you wait upon God to give you the best and the most suitable. Yes, it requires patience, and this is how you need to train yourself while you are seeking His will. Likewise, His will may not suit your desire, but for sure it is the best for you because He knows better than you. Therefore it is wise to accept what He is freely giving you.

For God had sent His Son Jesus to save us from sin and death. Jesus was crucified and died on the cross to give us eternal life. ***“He who did not spare, His own Son, but gave Him up for us all - how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?” (Romans 8:22)*** God so loves us that He gave even His own Son for us. Consequently, we have the confidence that God will always give the best and will do the most excellent thing for us.

***3- Knock the door of God:*** If we know that what we need can be fulfilled by our manager, director, doctor, or anyone over us, we simply go and knock His door and ask Him to help us. In our lives we go and knock different doors but not the door of God. Or, we are hesitant to knock the door of God because we are thinking that God will not consider our request, or because we are not convicted that God will honor that issue. Let us be encouraged; God hears us honors our requests, and He will answer us according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus. As well, certain matter may seem to be impossible to be solved. But let us be reminded that we knock the door of God. ***“With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.” (Mark 10:27)*** Let us not be amazed, ***“Have faith in God,’ Jesus answered. ‘I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen; it will be done for him. Therefore I tell, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” (Mark 11:22-24)***

***My dear and beloved:*** Prayer is the spiritual force that God has prepared for us and has placed in our hands. What is explained above may be simple and you may know well. But applying such facts carefully in our prayer time will ensure us a victorious life with Jesus. Let us pray, ***“Heavenly Father, I come before You in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and who raised from death to be my Lord and to give me eternal life. O Lord, restore my faith in You. Help me to pray asking You my needs, seeking to do your will; and to stand at your door to receive your answer. Grant me this request in Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.***