

Matthew 26 – Ask, Seek and Knock

Matthew 7:7-12

Fallen Condition Focus (FCF): Our actions toward others must not be driven by their treatment of us, but by Christ's treatment of us.

Main Point 1 – What is Ask, Seek, Knock about?

- What it is not about: Prosperity Gospel
- What it is about: God gives good things
- How do we know He gives good things?
- What are the “good things”?
 - **Luke 11:13** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father **give the Holy Spirit** to those who ask him!
 - Good things from an eternal perspective
 - Jesus may not want us to be wealthy, but he does want every one of us to be holy
- Ask, seek and knock
 - Ask: Implies a need for an external source of help
 - Seek: Not of ourselves, not readily apparent, must be sought
 - Knock: There is a way that is closed off to us that we cannot open on our own
- Synergism – the interaction of elements that when combined produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements, contributions, etc.
- Monergism – salvation is a one way street
 - Atonement
 - Salvation
- What ask, seek and knock means: salvation is available to any who will believe
 - Not by our works, but by acknowledging our need and resting in Christ's work

Main Point 2 – Golden Rule: Reflecting God's character

- Is this verse connected?
 - Some Bibles separate “Golden Rule” (vs. 12)
 - Some connect to next section
 - Note: Paragraphs, section headings, verse numbers and chapters – not inspired
- Connecting word
 - ESV, NIV – “So”; NAS, KJV – “Therefore”
 - Greek οὕτως “therefore, then; thus, so, accordingly”
 - Connects with what he just said
- Our actions are driven by God's character
- Application – Treating others, not as they deserve, but as we want to be treated