



Matthew: Alive to God's Desire

Week 6, Sermon Preached 2/5/2012

Matthew 7:7-12

Start it

- Do you think God feels we are being greedy when we pray for ourselves and/or our family? Does our heart's motive have any bearing on this?
- You've heard the expression "Be careful what you pray for – you might get it." Have you ever prayed desperately for something and were disappointed at the time God didn't fulfill your request? Then later on in life you were thankful He didn't answer your prayer. Could you share with the group?

Study it

- Read Matthew 7:7-12 out loud. If we "ask" for it and it will be given, what does Jesus mean when he follows that with "seek" and "knock"?
- What is expectant faith? Would having that attitude increase our chances of getting our prayers answered?
- "God always answers our prayers." Does he always? What do you think of how He answers? What about his timing?
- These verses speak of a father's relationship to his son. What should we parents learn about relating to our children from the description of how God relates to us?
- When should we stop petitioning God for any one certain thing? What answer to this question would you infer from these verses?

Live it

- Read verse 12 again. Many think this is one of the most important verses Jesus ever said. The laws of our government tell us what we cannot do to other people. If we never broke a law wouldn't we be good people? Why do we need the golden rule?
- What four-letter word, implied but not used in this verse, makes the difference in government rule and the golden rule? How does this word change the way you live your life?

Pray it

- Give the group the opportunity to make known individual prayer needs. Pray for those and then have a period of silent prayer with someone closing.

