

What did Jesus teach us about seeking God's guidance and help for our life?

Matthew 7:7-8: "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened."

What however did Jesus add to the requirements to ask from God?

John 15:7: "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."

In other words, we must abide in Christ in order to be heard by God. Why?

As Jesus said in John 14:6: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Furthermore:

1John 3:22: "And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight."

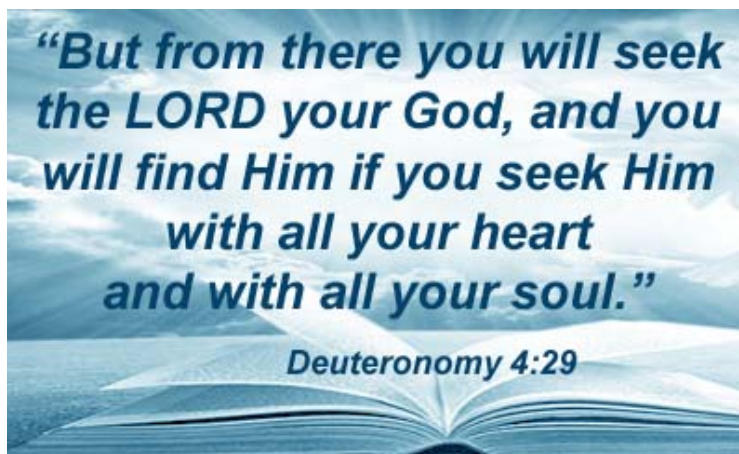
In other words, in abiding in Christ, we are assured that the Father hears our requests and petitions.

The reason Jesus stated:

John 15:16: "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you."

In examining my heart, are my motives to ask from God derived from abiding in Christ?

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What does the Word of God declare about seeking God?

Proverbs 8:17: "I love those who love Me, and those who seek Me diligently will find Me."

As such, how should we then live so we seek God diligently?

Psalm 119:2: "Blessed *are* those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!"

Lamentations 3:5: "The LORD *is* good to those who wait for Him, to the soul *who* seeks Him."

Psalm 9:9-10: "The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; for You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You."

What's more?

Psalm 14:2: "The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God."

2 Chronicles 7:14: "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Therefore:

Isaiah 55:6: "Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near."

Psalm 105:4: "Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face evermore!"

Is the focus of my life to seek the LORD, so I live to abide in Christ to the glory of God?

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How are we to truly seek God from the heart?

Colossians 3:1-2: "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."

Galatians 5:16-17: "Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want."

The reason why:

Galatians 5:24: "Those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

What's more?

Revelation 3:20: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me."

Therefore:

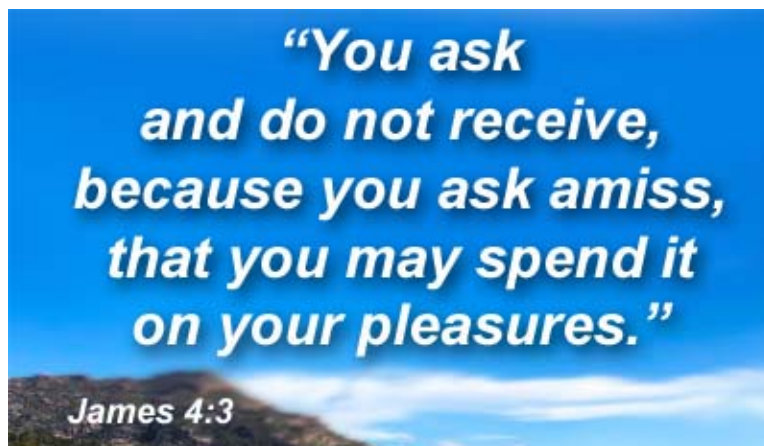
Matthew 6:33: "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness."

Psalms 37:4: "Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart."

1 Peter 5:8: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

Do I seek the things of this world, or is my heart rather focused on the Word of Christ, so I follow Him to the glory of God?

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What is the innermost fundamental principle that empowers us to seek God for help?

Hebrews 11:6: “Without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

What’s more?

James 1:5-8: “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; *he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”

1 John 5:14-15 “This is the confidence that we have in Him, 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 the petitions that we have asked of Him.”

Therefore:

Philippians 4:6-7: “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

How strong and focused on Christ is my faith in God, so in abiding in Him, I ask according to His will?

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What should our heart attitude be in seeking and asking anything from God?

Philippians 2:5: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."

As a result:

1 John 3:22: "Whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight."

The reason we are enjoined to:

Romans 12:2: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Why?

1 John 2:16: "For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world."

As such:

Galatians 6:8: "He who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life."

Therefore:

1 Peter 4:1: "Since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin."

Colossians 3:17: "And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

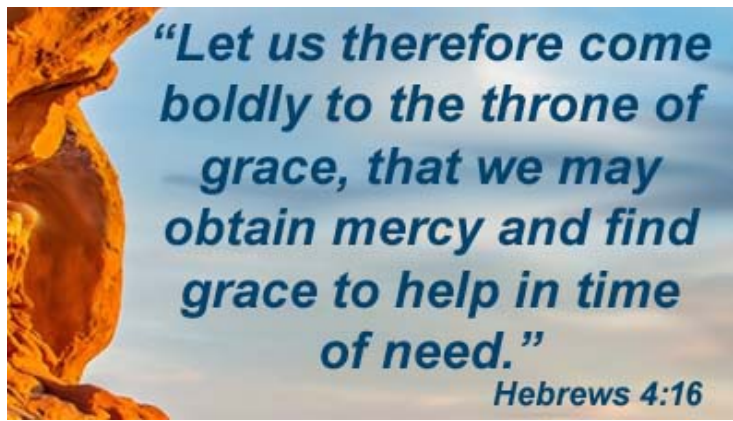
Matthew 5:6: "Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

How pure is my heart in asking and seeking from God?

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How must we live so we truly honor God from the heart and abide in His Word?

Matthew 6:19-20: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”

Why?

Romans 8:5-6: “Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.”

Romans 8:7-8: “Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”

Galatians 6:8: “For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”

Therefore:

Galatians 2:20: “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

How true is my faith in God, and am I committed from the heart to live by His Word?

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