



Part 12: Access to the Kingdom

Derek Archer, Community Life Pastor
July 20 & 21, 2013

Matthew 7:7-14

⁷“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

⁹“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! ¹²So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

¹³“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

Often we become so familiar, we are unfamiliar.

Often we make easy things difficult.

A relationship with God was not meant to be difficult.

“Ask and it will be given to you.” – Matthew 7:7

God gives good gifts.

“How much more does your father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!” – Matthew 7:11

Jesus is the narrow gate. The kingdom is the narrow road.

“But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.” – Matthew 7:14

Next Steps

Make a commitment to pray continuously for 10 minutes every day. Tell at least one person what time of day this will happen.

Read Psalm 139. (Memorize if possible.) What does this say about what God knows about you?

Consider attending the “Hearing God” class offered in the fall on Monday nights starting on September 23. If you are a young adult, consider participating in “Mission Year” by attending the meeting next Sunday, July 28 at 10:00 AM.

Small Group Questions

- 1) Can you remember a time when you tried something new, like a new phone, new diet, new diet, or new operating system? How long did it take you to become familiar? Was it easy or difficult?
- 2) Read Matthew 7:7-14. Do you think God intends a relationship with him to be easy or difficult? Why or why not?
- 3) What are some things you think God wants us to ask for? What would he be happy to answer? What gifts does he want to give us?
- 4) How could you live a more kingdom-centered life? How do you think that could affect people around you?
- 5) How can we pray for you?