

OUR FAITHFUL FATHER

MATTHEW 7:7-11

One may be a truly righteous man, and yet poor in temporal things; but one cannot be a truly praying man, and yet poor in spiritual things.

-John Broadus

I. The Call of the Disciple

II. The Character of the Father

Small Group Application Questions

Getting to Know You

1. How many times have you locked yourself out of your apartment or house?

Into the Bible

2. Verse 7 is echoed in John 15:7 and both seem to claim that God will grant us *whatever* we ask for, but obviously we don't always get what we ask for in prayer. James 4:3 gives us one reason why this is the case, what does II Corinthians 12:7-10 tell us is another reason for unanswered prayer?

3. Comparing the gifts of an earthly father with those of our Heavenly Father, verse 11 asks "how much more will your Father in Heaven give". What does Romans 8:32 indicate about the scope of God's willingness to give?

Application

4. God promises to provide all of our needs, but the emphasis in this passage seems to be on us—asking, seeking, and knocking. Why do you think God wants us to do these things in prayer? Read Philippians 4:6 and John 16:21-24 for some suggestions.

For Families

5. Talk with your children about why we should trust God when he doesn't answer our prayers with what we asked for.