



Week 10: Our Dependence

Jesus calls us to live with discernment, not condemnation. In Matthew 7:7–12, He reminds us that we can't live out His teaching without His power. Prayer isn't about getting what we want—it's about becoming who God wants us to be. As we ask, seek, and knock, our hearts align with His, and our lives overflow with active love—doing for others what we would want them to do for us. This is the way of Jesus: humble, prayerful, and full of grace.

Discussion Questions:

1. **Read Matthew 7:7-12.** Jesus connects humility and prayer by saying, “Ask, seek, knock.” Why do you think He places this teaching on prayer right after His words about judging others?
2. **Read James 4:3.** How can we discern whether our prayers are about our will or God's will? What are some ways to align your prayers more closely with God's heart?
3. The Greek verbs for ask, seek, knock imply continuous action. How does persistent prayer shape your dependence on God? Share an example of when persistence in prayer changed your perspective or your situation.
4. What “good gifts” has God given you recently that you might have missed at first? What's something you prayed for that you did not receive that you now consider a blessing? How does that “unanswered prayer” help you better understand God's love and care for you?
5. “Do for others what you would want them to do for you.” Where do you find this hardest to live out right now—in your home, workplace, or community? Can you think of a relationship or a situation that would change if you started living out “The Golden Rule” regularly?
6. How does prayer help you love others the way Jesus calls us to in verses 12? In what ways can the group encourage each other to live out active, not passive, faith this week?