

Praying with Confidence

Prayer & Fasting – Part 2

“So we fasted and earnestly prayed that our God would take care of us, and he heard our prayer.” Ezra 8:23 (NLT)

“...Lord, teach us to pray...” Luke 11:1 (NIV)

(Matthew 7:7-12)

1) It’s not about my words, it’s about my relationship.

“...how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.” vs. 11b (NIV)

2) My persistence is more important than my position.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” vs. 7 (NIV)

- When I’m close to God, I just ask.
- When I’m not close to God, I must seek.
- When there’s a barrier, I need to knock.

“For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.” vs. 8 (NIV)

2) God will never give me anything unhelpful or harmful.

“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone?” vs. 9 (NIV)

“Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not!” vs. 10 (NLT)

“So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.” vs. 11 (NLT)

3) God wants me to give to others what I want to get.

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.” vs. 12 (NIV)

“When Job prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes. In fact, the Lord gave him twice as much as before!”
Job 42:10 (NIV)