

Lessons from a hill
“Right relationship”
W/C 12th May 2024

The first and greatest commandment is to love God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. In Matthew 7, Jesus puts it differently, he says we are to “ask ... seek ... knock.” The tense in the Greek verbs is in the present imperative. Literally it means ‘to keep asking, to keep seeking and to keep knocking.’ This is about a wholehearted pursuit of God and his will for our lives. God promises, “You will seek me and find me when you seek with all your heart” (Jer 29:13). Our confidence that our asking, seeking, and knocking will be answered, is in the knowledge that God is a loving father who longs to give good gifts to his children.

Welcome: When you pray, what are the sorts of things that you usually ask God for?

Worship: Spend some time in worship. Plan an act of worship that is appropriate to your group.

Word: Looking at God’s word together:

Read Matthew 7:7-11

1. How have you understood verses 7-8 in the past?
2. Does the way you have seen these verses change if the object of our prayers is the pursuit of God, and his will, and not just the things that does for us?
3. What reasons do we have for having confidence in God from this passage?
4. What does it mean for you to know that God is a good father?
5. Should God always give us what we ask for? Why/Why not?
6. Do you have any examples of prayers which you are now glad God didn’t answer?

Witness: There are some who struggle to call “Father” because of a bad relationship they have/had with their earthly Father, how would you help them appreciate the Fatherly goodness of God?

Prayer:

- Pray that God will continue to build his holy character in your life.
- Pray for the witness of the church.
- Pray for those on the mission field.
- Pray for ‘Going Deeper’ this evening (19th)
- Pray for the Fun Day planned for 13th July.