

KNOCKING ON GOD'S DOOR

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Matt 7:7-8

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

NIV

Many believe that asking, seeking and knocking are all speaking of praying, but it is not absolutely correct. To ask is to make a request or petition for a favour. To seek is to search or find something hidden or a favour. To knock is to strike with a loud blow or strike the door as a sign of desire to enter or to get the insider's attention. All of these involves praying but goes beyond praying. Knocking on God's door which will be our focus in this study is more than praying.

To knock on God's door is to get God's attention with the intent that the door be opened to the knocker for him to obtain grace and favour from God and have his needs met. Every man who knocks with the aim of getting the attention of the one inside the house, so the door will be opened and he given attention. Knocking on God's door therefore, is doing something that will get God's attention and enable him to give you an urgent hearing and attend to your desires and requests.

WHAT KNOCKING ON GOD'S DOOR INVOLVES

1. Service

One of the ways to knock on God's door and get His attention is to render faithful service to the Lord and in the house of God. No one serves the Lord in vain. God rewards faithful service.

Isa 45:19

19 I have not spoken in secret, from somewhere in a land of darkness; I have not said to Jacob's descendants, 'Seek me in vain.' I, the LORD, speak the truth; I declare what is right.

NIV

Heb 6:10

10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

KJV

Nobody seeks God in vain and He never calls anyone to do anything for Him without promising a reward. So, anytime anyone renders a service to God, he gets rewarded. Rendering a service while you wait on God in faith to answer you and meet your needs and solve your problems, will never go unrewarded. God takes special note of those who fear Him and honour His name through their lifestyle and services.

Mal 3:16-4:1

16 Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name. 17 "They will be mine," says the LORD Almighty, "in the day when I make up my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him. 18 And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.

NIV

David, son of Jesse's diligent service to his father and his family got God's attention to the point that when God needed a king to replace Saul, it was David he chose.

1 Sam 16:11-13

11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. 12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

KJV

No one serves for nothing. The labourer will always be a first partaker of the fruits of his labour. Your service to the Lord will not go unrewarded.

2 Tim 2:6

6 The husbandman that laboreth must be first partaker of the fruits.

KJV

1 Cor 9:7-10

7 Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock? 8 Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also? 9 For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen? 10 Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope.

KJV

The more you please God through service, the more God looks in your direction and sees to it that your needs are met and problems solved. Life experience teaches us that every parent gives more attention to the one that is more obedient and always available to do their bidding and serve their interest. In the same way, God never ignores the one that is close to Him in faithful obedience and service. Spend more time with God and invest your time and energy in His vineyard and you will see how he will attend to your needs urgently. When ever you need help from God, give more of your time to the service of God.

So many years ago, I told a young brother who was under severe satanic attack under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to join the prayer band of the church and spend his Wednesdays fasting and praying for the church and those in need and God will heal and deliver him. At that time, he was just a new convert. It was this particular challenge that brought him to God and our church. He obeyed, and that saved his life. He was completely delivered. Serve God and others and in any way you can even if it is a sacrifice on your part. When it is convenient and when it is not convenient, serve. Give your time, talent, skill, training, resources and strength to the service of God. Knock on God's door through service and you will be heard.

2. Faithful tithing

Knocking on God's door involves faithful tithing of our income to God. Many do not realize that a non-tithing life makes a man's life to be tight because it provokes the curse of God and shorts the heavens over the non-tither. And when the curse of God is working, how can the person get his prayers answered.

Mal 3:8-12

8 "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it. 11 "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the LORD of hosts; 12 "And all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land," Says the LORD of hosts.

NKJV

Tithing facilitates increase and prosperity. It activates the power of God for wealth creation in the tither's life. To tithe is to use your income to honour and thank God for His provision and support in the pursuit of life goals. And when you do that you are preparing the way for God to show you his salvation and great power. Tithing is knocking on God's door. Make tithing your lifestyle. Tithe with all your heart and diligently and you will get God's attention always.

3. Giving (Kingdom investments)

Anything that one does that stirs God in the spirit to perform a miracle is knocking on God's door. Giving to the work of God for the furtherance of the gospel of Jesus Christ is knocking on God's door. Giving propels God to release His supernatural power for breakthroughs of different kinds in the life of the giver. God never closes His heart to a giver. God never denies a giver help when he needs help. God makes sure the giver never lacks. God opens the windows of heaven to a giver so his house will be full with good things and overflow to the point that he does not have enough room to accommodate God's blessings.

After Peter lent his boat to Jesus to preach from, Jesus asked Peter to launch into the deep and let down his net for a catch. He told Jesus that they failed to catch anything all night long, but he was going to let down his net because He said so. He had a miracle catch when he did. The fishes

were so many that he called out to his partners in the other boat to come and help. Both boats were filled with fishes to the point that the boats began to sink.

Luke 5:1-11

5:1 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, 2 and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. 3 Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. 4 When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." 5 But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." 6 And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. 7 So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" 9 For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; 10 and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." 11 So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

NKJV

Peter's giving of his boat produced a miracle of a net breaking harvest which he was not expecting. Your giving will always make a way for you to receive what you believe God for.

4. Sacrifice

Sacrifice is the act of giving up something important or valuable to you in order to get or do something that seems more important for yourself or for another person. Sacrificing to God what is precious to you to get God's attention and move Him to answer your prayers is knocking on God's door.

Ps 50:5

5 "Gather My saints together to Me, Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."

NKJV

Each time a man makes a sacrifice, he is covenanting himself to God for a special favour and blessing. Sacrifice commit God to perform for the sacrificer what he desires or specifies he wants. Sacrifice is moving the hand of God to meet your urgent need. It gets God's attention, and it is richly rewarding.

There may be times you desperately need God's help and you want to sacrifice something to God to get His urgent attention, but you have nothing at hand valuable enough that you can give as a sacrifice, you can make a vow or promise like Hannah did. When you make a vow, make sure you fulfill your vow and you will be blessed the more.

Eccl 5:4-5

4 When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; For He has no pleasure in fools.

*Pay what you have vowed-- 5 Better not to vow than to vow and not pay.
NKJV*

CONCLUSION

Knocking on God's door is essential for answer to prayers to be obtained. Asking may not be enough. When you ask and you don't get immediately what you want. You may need to seek out what God is saying by all that is happening or the way out of your situation. When that is done and situation has not changed, you may need to knock on God's door through service, tithing, giving and sacrifices. Don't just pray, knock on God's door and you will get an answer.