

Knockers  
Matt. 7: 7, 8

Hog & pecker events  
Knock as a friend. Just  
worry for you

This was a tremendous declaration. Jesus was always astonishing his hearers. Those nearest him had their days filled with pleasant surprises. He stirred them perhaps must by his example, and looking at prayer.

They were amazed at him as a wonder worker, but did not hear them saying "Lord teach us to work wonders." This is strange for us because we all like to work wonders, when the magician comes in the Changanu and all the little boys want to learn his tricks.

They must have hung on his words as he taught for they followed him constantly to hear him teach but we never hear them say "Show us how to teach" they said of his preaching "never mean op-ke as this man" but never asked him "teach us how to preach."

But they did say "teach us to pray" and this wonderful text was one day given them. They saw him praying and beheld his upturned face.

It is great to be taught by one who knows, one who is familiar, one who knows its possibilities. He who was that person said, "ask and ye shall find seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you." That is a great promise.

But how do we treat this promise?

1. make nothing of prayer. I am not a pessimist but I am of the opinion that the church to-day is not a praying church. Do you have a secret place did you pray this A.M. for S.S. teachers and preachers and to prepare you for the service?
2. Take prayer more seriously but fumble it. say they have asked and received not and they become rebellious.
3. Others say that it works - How did it work for them and how can it work for us?
  - a. We must feel sense of need {Pharisee  
Publican

- b. To ask is to apply to a person, to a personality - obedient - prayer impossible to one who is not surrendered. If I regard iniquity in my heart the Lord will not hear me. The unsundered will account for many an unanswered prayer.

When you are seeking a place in God's presence what is it that intervenes and makes it impossible?

1. Praying for children, does thought of a family altar slip in and you say to God such is impossible?
2. Does fear of one to whom you owe an apology appear?
3. Does a practice that is questionable appear?

- c. Ask according to God's will. We answer our children for their petition because it is earnest way out. "I gave my son too much money"

Not only ask but "seek" - asking plus effort. James prayed and God then gave him grain. Pray for health & that properly the amusement question - 5 cups of coffee.

The sin of priest and Levite was not that they did not pray for the wounded man but that they did not do.

We must knock = asking + effort + persistence

