

Series: **EQUIPPED TO PRAY**

Title: **CALL TO REQUEST (INTERCESSION / PETITION)**

Text: Luke 11:2-4; Matt 6:9-13

We have taught on....

- Call to *Relationship* with a Holy God.
- Call to *Recognition* of His voice.
- Call to the *Invitation* into in the three unseen Arenas of spiritual Battles: The Heavens, The Mind, The Ministry Moment.
- Call to the *Position* of persistent and constant prayer.
- Call to the *Taking the Offense* against the enemy.
- Last week we looked at the call to *Praise God* in the storms.

Today I want to speak on asking God for your personal needs for you and others.

CALL TO REQUEST (INTERCESSION / PETITION)

Petition – Praying for your needs.

- Make or present a formal request to (an authority) with respect to a particular cause.

Intercession – Praying for others' needs.

- The action of intervening on behalf of another.
- The action of saying a prayer on behalf of another person.

Luke 11:2-4

“Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.”

Matt 6:9-13

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Positioned to Request

His Will

Matt 6:9-13

- Your kingdom come.
- Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Our Humility

James 4:10

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2 Chron. 7:14

... if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Empowered to Request

Come Boldly

1 John 5:14-15

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

- Confidence – boldness

Come In Christ

Hebrews 4:16

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- Confidence – boldly
- Because He is our High Priest

Come As a Child

Matt 7:7-11

⁷“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

- How much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask Him.

Matt 18:3-4

³ “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

- Not the actions of a spoiled child
- Not some presumption of a snotty brat
- A loving child comes to a loving Father and submits to the father's will in asking.
- He knows what is good for us and what is not.
- Christmas story – red rider BB gun – He always knows.

Reasons to Request

We need to depend on the Father

- Give us.
- Forgive us.
- Lead us.
- Deliver us.
- The psalms reveal a heart of prayer that is loaded with dependence upon him.

Psalm 3:3

Say to my soul, "I am your salvation!"

Psalm 18:2-3

² The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. ³ I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

- Is the Father the first place we go?
- House/ car illustration

We need to partner with the Father

Romans 8:26

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

1 Kings 18:41-46 - Elijah prays about the drought.

- Israel had been in a 3-year drought and God said, 'OK, I'm going to bring the rain, but Elijah, I want you to pray it in.' Even though God could have easily brought the rain, He still wanted to use Elijah's prayers. Pray, pray again, pray again. 7 times

Hindrances to answers

Not asking

James 4:2

You do not have, because you do not ask.

- Our fears or doubts halted our prayers.

Not asking from His will

James 4:3

You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

- Our desires rule the request.
- Pray about what to pray about – seeking His will.

No fast – (demons)

Matt 7:19-21 NASB

¹⁹ Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not drive it out?” ²⁰ And He said to them, “Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. ²¹ But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

No faith

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

James 1:5-7

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

ACCEPTANCE OF ANSWERS

“No.”

- Paul’s thorn in flesh
- Jesus at garden

“Not now.”

- It will come, but not today, not in your lifetime.

“Yes, conditionally...”

- If there are ten righteous
- If you repent of a sin
- If this is done, then this

“Yes”

- According to your faith

“No for you, but yes for your children.”

- Josiah – judgement not on you but on your children.
- David – You cannot build it, but your child will.

John 14:12-14

¹² *“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”*

Prayer