

# ASK, SEEK, KNOCK

LESSON 12: RED LETTER BUSINESS

*The spiritual life is the life of Christ reproduced in the life of the believer by the power of the Holy Spirit in obedient response to the Word of God.*

– DR. HOWARD HENDRICKS

## CORPORATE SITUATION ROOM

Jim works for a small company that produces seat belts for vehicles of all types. He was hired 10 years ago by George, the founder of the company, and has been a part of the amazing growth in the company from day one. Jim and George are both followers of Jesus and the company has a good culture where everyone “does what it takes” to get the product finished on time. Jim started work doing whatever was necessary on the production floor and now oversees the team that does the work. Jim has made a good salary from the start and every year he has gotten a cost-of-living raise. A few years ago, Jim found out from a friend who has a similar position that he is underpaid. Jim has very high trust and respect for his boss, George, and has just ignored this fact trying to be content with his great job and what he has been given already. Every year these thoughts continue to be with him and are growing. Now his attitude toward George and the company are changing.

- Q. What should Jim do?
- Q. How does Jim’s perspective on his situation hamper his actions?
- Q. What do you think is Jim’s perspective of his Heavenly Father?
- Q. What fears are holding Jim back?
- Q. In what ways could George have been a better leader over the years?

## MATTHEW 7:7-12

<sup>7</sup> “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

<sup>9</sup> “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup> Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? <sup>11</sup> If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! <sup>12</sup> So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

“I don’t want to bother God with my requests” is a common attitude and tells of a deeper view of God. Our attitudes and actions in the marketplace and in life directly reflect our perspectives on our Heavenly Father. If we are not actively seeking Him and the good gifts that He offers us, we can not live the full and rich life He calls us to. If we don’t believe that God wants to give us good gifts this attitude will show up in our relationships in life. We can become complacent and settle for our “lot in life”. This attitude can result in bitterness and a sinical nature that we project on our families and co-workers. We can only truly treat others as ourselves if we believe that our Father in heaven does have abundant, good gifts for us and we seek Him and ask Him for them!

- Q.** If the foundation of the beatitudes is humility and submission how does these character traits relate to seeking and asking?
- Q.** What impact does the fact that God wants to revel Himself to us make on your life?
- Q.** What do you think good gifts are?
- Q.** Why and how would our actions and attitudes toward others change if we are seeking God and asking him for good gifts?