

Discussion Questions - 1/16/22

Kingdom Living Is Hard & Impossible (Matthew 7:7-14)

Here are three basic questions you can always ask in any bible study:

- What does this text teach us about God?
- What does this text teach us about ourselves?
- If this text is true, what should we do to obey this teaching? This answer ought to be specific, in that it can be clearly measured.

Here are some specific questions about this text:

- Our heavenly Father gives good things to those who ask Him.
 - Are you asking your Heavenly Father to give good things? Sometimes we have not because we ask not. (James 4)
 - In a parallel passage (Luke 11:9-13) Jesus mentions that one of the good things that our Father gives us is the Holy Spirit. Do you regularly ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to live out Christ's kingdom? Why not?
 - Can you look back at an unanswered prayer and begin to see God's wisdom in not giving what you asked?
 - Are you asking for power by the Spirit to live out His kingdom?
 - Kingdom living is impossible apart from the supernatural work of God in our lives. Prayer is an indication that we understand the Sermon on the Mount.
- Why is living out the Kingdom called hard in 7:14?
 - What will it take for you to keep reorienting yourself to Christ's kingdom even when large swaths of the world are going in the opposite direction?
 - What passage in the Sermon on the Mount is most hard for you to live today?