

May 2008

To the hungry:

There comes a place in everyone's life where their faith must be stirred. Everyday we learn more about our Father and begin to realize how good He is. Yet, we sometimes act like the proverbial undeserving 'Middle child' the one who supposedly doesn't get any attention. Why doesn't he get attention? Perhaps it's due to being wide-eyed and watchful after seeing the older sibling try to carve out their own niche by proudly demanding the blessings of life. They see that doesn't work and remain silent. They look again and see the younger, the baby and the favorite seemingly given everything. Everything goes their way.

Could it be that the Father wants to give to all equally but disdains the pride of the oldest, is unmoved by the inaction of the middle child and even though the youngest receives he is not getting the best but just what happens to be given out. Now I understand this is not the case 100% of the time, but psychological studies have shown that this does indeed happen in families today.

The key is the Father wants to bless and give but not to one full of pride simply for being a son, or to give to one full of fear and unbelief, nor does he want us to be blessed simply by the trickle down effect. He has greater things in store for us than are greater than what we could ever think or ASK. Ephesians 3:20 says

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us Eph3:20

If you are letting God's power work through you, then what are you waiting for? Do you want to see miracles and breakthroughs? Then ASK! There are <u>no</u> limitations in getting things from God according to His precious promises.

2 Peter 1:4 whereby *have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises* I've been telling God "I want to see miracles!" I guess I've been like the older sibling, proudly demanding and expecting. Then God showed me a man in a wheel chair that I see everyday that I had never bothered to talk to, much less pray for or ask God to heal. God said to me as I repented "You have not because you ask not!"

I desire for God to move but He's just not going to do it if I'm not willing to open my eyes to what He wants to do in the people around me. Can He? Of Course. God can do whatever He wants, but history and the bible show us He's always looking for a person that is usable. The next day I was obedient and humbled to be able to talk to and pray with that man with the laying on of hands.

Ask, then Seek, then Knock

The first letter of each of those commands reemphasizes the importance of the first word – **ASK**! It is God's will that we ask and get what we want if we seek with our whole heart. Ah yes, another key to the kingdom!

1 John 3:22 says whatever you ask, we receive <u>because</u> we keep His commandments.

Are you keeping His commandments? If you're not receiving, then maybe this is the reason, or maybe because you ask amiss, (James 4:3) so that you can consume God's blessing on your own lusts. Perhaps instead of judging others or condemning your surroundings, you should pray instead and as a result see the sinner and backsliders around you restored through your prayer by the power of God. That's His will! Are you willing? Humble yourself.

Luke 18:9-14 Jesus told this story to some people who thought they were very good and looked down on everyone else: "A Pharisee and a tax collector both went to the Temple to pray. The Pharisee stood alone and prayed, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people who steal, cheat, or take part in adultery, or even like this tax collector. I give up eating twice a week, and I give one-tenth of everything I get!' "The tax collector, standing at a distance, would not even look up to heaven. But he beat on his chest because he was so sad. He said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' I tell you, when this man went home, he was right with God, but the Pharisee was not. All who make themselves great will be made humble, but all who make themselves humble will be made great."

Ask God with confidence and humility and most of all BELIEVE! The only reason for unanswered prayer of a Christian is unbelief. Our Father offers deliverance from danger, preservation from evil, bodily healing and health and material prosperity. ASK God to receive these things and stop questioning God. Have faith in God! Don't be the baby who gets the trickle- down blessings because of those who have the faith for big things and just happen to be around them when they get it! Go after your own!

Remember John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Stay (abide) in the Lord. Now, don't get carried away! Use that mind God gave you. James 1:5 is an essential ingredient. If any of you lack wisdom (I've got my hand raised) let him ASK of God and it shall be given to him and what else? Remember the "She loves me; she loves me not" game we played with flowers we picked the petals off of one by one when we were kids? Well, don't do that with your faith saying "Today I believe, today I don't believe, today....etc, etc." Quit wavering! Verse James 1:6 says when we waver we're like a waves of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. People of God, I believe that God is just waiting to explode in power over our lives with signs, wonders and miracles. We just have to ASK Him to pour it out over us and around us. So join the Chief's war cry to continue to do battle for God's kingdom against the kingdom of darkness. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Be Blessed! Be Warriors!

Chief