

Kingston Church of Christ

Meeting at 446 College St., Kingston, ON K7L 4M7
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Every member a minister

April 18, 2021

Quote of the Week:

"When purity is reduced to legalism, our hearts are no longer free; they are focused more on maintaining rituals and customs than on living out a genuine character change."

—David Edwards

Let's Keep Praying For

- Robyn and her siblings as they mourn their mother's passing
- Ron C as he continues his recovery at home
- Levi's recovery
- Alex as she faces ongoing health issues
- Ruby during stem cell transplant recovery
- Anne
- Joan
- Brian as he struggles with Tinnitus
- Glenn and Betty
- Dan's father, Tim F
- Chad's parents Marilyn and Roy. Health issues

**Now meeting virtually
at 10:00 a.m. Sundays**

Read the New Testament in a Year: April 19-25, 2021.

Mon John 14
Tues John 15
Wed John 16
Thurs John 17
Fri John 18
Sat John 19
Sun make-up day

News:

Our condolences to **Robyn, Chad and Spencer** on the loss of Robyn's mother.

The **Central Church of Christ** in Winnipeg, MB is inviting us to join their Spiritual Growth, Renewal, and Outreach Weekend. It's a free zoom seminar April 30 to May 2. Register at Winnipegchurch.ca/grow2021 or get information about connecting by phone when you call Jay Manintim at (204) 515-7415.

See more details at <https://winnipegchurch.ca/grow2021/>

Great Lakes Bible College Fundraising and Promotional event is Saturday, April 24 at 1:00 p.m. Jim Holston is the guest speaker. This will be a zoom gathering.
<https://bit.ly/3m9LoxS> Meeting ID: 870 8061 4083 Passcode: 458868

Contributions: send to churchcollege@yahoo.com or leave in box in foyer.

Key to the Kingdom – Fridays 8:30 am on Vision TV

Woody's Words by Woody Square

As a young child, I would ask my parents for everything from a second serving of rice pudding after dinner to a slot car track for Christmas. I remember the feeling of joy when that rice pudding went into my mouth, interacted with my salivary glands, and then flowed into my stomach . . . sooooo good! In Matthew 7:7-11, Jesus teaches his followers to approach God with the same confidence and fearlessness of a child who's making a request to a loving parent.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 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!

Jesus seems to be concerned not so much with people who are afraid to pray but rather with people who are afraid of God. Perhaps they look at God as someone perched and ready to pounce like a lion, or bark like a drill sergeant, or respond like an enemy seeking vengeance. In this passage, Jesus wants his followers to look at God as a loving and caring parent who wants to give good gifts to His child.

As you read this passage, three words dance off the page: Ask, Seek and Knock. There's a pulsing movement that's like a dance we all would like to participate in, but sometimes we're a little apprehensive because we're afraid of taking the wrong steps or doing the wrong thing. Prayer communicates an interaction with God that's not fearful of saying the wrong thing or not being perfect. Sometimes we know what we need, and sometimes we simply don't. In prayer we reach our hands out to God and He joins us in the dance. Sometimes during the dance we make discoveries about God's greatest desires for us.

One fear that I've had concerning prayer is the notion of, "Is what I'm praying for appropriate?" (This was a major concern when I was in college.) Should I pray that I get an "A" on a test? Should I pray that this girl, Judy, likes me? Should I pray that I get a high-paying job after college? Is it wise for me to do a summer mission internship in the country of Papua New Guinea? Sometimes we feel the need to edit our prayers. I'll admit that there's a thin line between what I actually need and what I simply want. In this passage, Jesus says "no" to editing and "yes" to approaching God with boldness and trust, knowing that we are in good hands with our Father in heaven.

And so as you prepare to pray today, picture God as your parent eager and ready to hear your voice and everything on your heart. Picture God as someone who wants the greatest good for your life and is committed to loving you and going the extra mile for you - and even ready to give you a second serving of that rice pudding that you like so much!