

SINGLE ALLIANCE

07/09/06

KNOCK! KNOCK!

I. Introduction

A. Last week we talked about the benefits of blessing the Lord- of bowing the knee to God.

B. This week the lesson is called knock! knock! Turn to your neighbor and say, knock, knock!

C. Text: Luke 9:10-11

D. These verses are in context with a story Jesus told about a man who wakes up his neighbor in the middle of the night for bread.

This story is not to compare God but to contrast God. God is willing to give to you at all times.

E. Luke 9:10-11 have been used by some to teach you need to badger God in prayer- Ask, seek, and knock are present tense. But so is receive and find in vs. 11- Be asking and be receiving, Be seeking and be finding. Opened is a little different. I want to talk about doors this morning. But before we do that let's look at asking and seeking.

II. Ask

A. These two verses outline three areas of prayer that we need to fulfill God's plan for our lives. Asking, seeking, and knocking. Asking deals with natural things, Seeking with spiritual things, and knocking with doors of opportunity.

B. Asking involves the prayer of faith to receive the things we need to fulfill our calling- natural provisions of life.

C. Mark 11:24- Believe you receive them and you will have them

D. Some have a problem asking God for things. God is more than willing to give to you what you need.

E. It is not wrong to occasion ask for help from people but where is your trust- in people or God. You need to rely on God with no crutches of man.

F. If you always look to man to meet your need than your faith will be weak and ineffective

III. Seeking

A. Seeking deals with spiritual virtues.

B. We need resources to fulfill our calling in which we receive by asking.

C. We also need the character of Jesus in fulfilling our calling. God is calling you places that you need character to keep you.

Sometimes God is not allowing you to go places because He knows you character cannot keep you there. It is more important who you are than where you go, because it is who you are that will determine where you will go.

D. Seeking deals with spiritual things

A. Colossians 3:1- Seek those things above

B. Matthew 6:33- Seek first the kingdom of God

C. 1 Peter 3:11- Seek peace

D. 1 Cor. 14:1- Pursue or seek after love

D. Seek God and his face- his character

IV. Knocking

A. Luke 9:11- receiveth is present tense, findeth is present tense, but shall be opened is future tense.

B. Knocking refers to doors and doors represent access and opportunity. Colossians 4:3

C. It means advancement, promotion, and new direction

D. This refers to a door or new opportunity for ministry, work, relationship to advance the Kingdom of God.

E. We cannot believe and make a door open. God is in charge of doors.

F. Revelation 3:8- God opens doors that no man can shut. He also shuts doors no man can open.

V. Doors

A. I believe God has doors that are about to open to many in here, but what governs doors being opened. God is in charge of opening doors but we can determine if God will open a door and what door he will open

B. First we need to be knocking. This is present tense. We must want to advance the kingdom and be asking for the door of opportunity to open He has for us for the advancement of the kingdom and ministry of God in the Earth.

C. We must knock on **THE** door. We often ask God to open doors. No, God's plan is progressive- one door at a time. If we walk

through a door and faithfully fulfill his will inside it He will open another one.

D. We must be faithful with the last door. Many want promoted or new opportunities but have not been faithful with the last door.

E. Not all open doors are from God. People and Satan can open doors.

F. We must follow peace. Colossians 3:15

G. Stay away from door fleeces!

H. There will be challenges with every new door. 1 Cor. 16:9- There will be many adversaries

I. Do not let fear keep you out of the door! If you do not know if a door is from God step towards it and check your spirit. Look at the circumstances, weigh the good and bad, but in the end follow the peace in your heart. Step out, find out!

J. Pray