



Connect Discussion Guide

Sunday Message - 11/8/20 | Tyler Myers | Matthew 7:7-14

Greater gifts are experienced when we walk with Christ alongside a broken world.

Key Scriptures:

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

- Matthew 7:7-14

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

- Matthew 22:37-40

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

- Matthew 5:14-16

Message Highlights:

- As a church, we Rethink Christmas because we believe that Immanuel, God with us, is the greatest gift ever given or received. We want to help all people experience genuine Christmas.
- "Tension demands our response." Our response is a conversation of who and what we worship.
- Following Jesus is more than a saying around here. It is real conversations with meaningful relationships.
- Jesus said we are the light of the world and we are responsible to shine in a way that people see goodness and declare the glory to God in heaven.
- Greater gifts are experienced when we walk with Christ alongside a broken world.
- Let our GREATER GIFTS become light bulb moments for the world!

Conversation Starter:

- Describe a time when you were either lost in the dark or the power went out in your house. How did you find your way around? What did it feel like when you finally had some light to help you see again?

Discuss the Message:

1. Jesus tells us to ask, seek and knock, trusting that God will give us what we need. Do you find that easier or more difficult to do lately? Why do you think that is?
2. How can we make sure that “following Jesus” is more than simply a saying and actually describes the way we live?
3. What does it look like to engage in real conversations and meaningful relationships as we follow Jesus?
4. How can we focus our Christmas season in a way that leads to life for us and for others?
5. What would it look like for us to be “among the few that bring hope to the many?”
6. Think ahead to January 1, 2021. How might the lives of the people you influence be different because of the way you celebrated Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years?

Pray:

- Pray for one another.
- Pray that we would have the faith in God to engage in relationships that can lead people to him.
- Pray that God would open each of our eyes to the needs around us that we can meet.
- Pray that God would bless our collective generosity to help people experience life change.