

THE WIN COMES IN THE “KNOCK” OUT

ser4088 Spiritual Warfare, Pt 5

October 31, 2021 E & L

I. (HOOK) POINT OF INTRIGUE

A. The last hour of my day typically consists of preparing the next day’s social media post, reading the VOTD (verse of the day) from the New Version Bible app, and evening prayers.

On Monday, for whatever the reason—well, actually it wasn’t a “whatever,” it was the Holy Spirit; I decided to look at the *verse of the day* when I awakened.

It was *Matthew 7:7*. At first, I thought nothing of it. I have read and heard that verse more times than there are stars in the sky. Well, not quite! LOL!

However, as I was heading to the office to prepare this sermon, I could not shake the verse. It kept percolating through my brain. Then it struck me—the order of the steps God gives us to get answers to our prayers.

(BOOK) Let’s look at the passage! *Matthew 7:7*

7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

B. (LOOK) Note the order, the progression:

1. Ask

2. Seek

3. Knock

It's not enough to *ask*, it's not enough to *seek*; we must *knock*.

C. Jesus understood spiritual warfare; Jesus understood where the real battle takes place.

Let's look at it!

Ephesian 6:12

¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

Again, in ***Matthew 6:6***, Jesus says,

⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

D. Jesus is telling us before we do anything else, PRAY.

1. Your enemy is not who you can see; your enemy is who you cannot see.
2. Your enemy is not your ...
 - a. neighbor,
 - b. fellow employee,

- c. employer
- d. the Republican or Democratic party,
- e. the government – well, maybe LOL!
- f. the person in your class who is driving you nuts,
- g. mother,
- h. father,
- i. brother,
- j. sister,
- k. aunt,
- l. uncle,
- m. wife,
- n. husband
- o. school board
- p. the law –

NOTE: Remember the song popularized by the Bobby Fuller Four? “I Fought the Law” and the law won.

(Your enemy is not your ...)

- q. X-husband
- r. X-wife
- s. the tree in the Garden of Eden—think about that for a moment
- t. ... and the list goes on.

Your enemy is the *evil one*. The one to whom your enemy, or you, are listening to and obeying. That is your enemy! The tree in the Garden of Eden was not Adam and Eve’s enemy; it was Satan who used the tree.

3. And as disappointing as it may sound, YOU ARE NO MATCH FOR SATAN! No creature on earth or heaven is his match; he was the highest of all creation.

LET'S LOOK AT IT!

Jude 1:9

⁹ Yet Michael the archangel, in [a]contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The LORD rebuke you!"

E. Here's the good news!

The same LORD that was available to Michael the archangel, is available to you. And the Church said, "Hallelujah!"

The **same** LORD who won the battle for Michael the archangel can win the battle for you. All you have to do is ask, seek, and knock. The knockout comes in the "knock." No pun intended.

Let's watch it!

(The Chosen, Season 1, Episode 6. 4:19)

II. (TOOK) HOW TO KNOCK OUT THE DEVIL – THE FORMULA

A. What's the formula for knocking out the Devil?

1. Ask – Can we see the Master?
2. Seek—Don't let anyone stand in your way.

3. Knock—If you must, go through the roof.

B. I first learned to pray ...

- When my sister had the measles, and my mother said, “Don’t take a bath with your sister; you could catch what she’s got.”
- Two in the tub is far more fun than one.
- Afterward, I went into my bedroom, knelt by the old-fashioned radiator, and prayed not to get the measles.
- I didn’t, but my mother did.

C. I further learned to pray ...

- When my first Chow Chow got hotspots.
- I was in college and didn’t have the money to take her to the vet.
- I was embarrassed to ask my parents for money, so I prayed.
- Immediately the hot spots began to disappear. Within two days after I prayed, EVERY hot spot was gone.

D. I learned that our REAL enemy could be knocked out in prayer.

The property sat unfinished for over a year, and the world began chirping about how the leadership of this church missed it in believing we could build without debt. Lifting *Isaiah 37* to God while in the Chapel, the LORD rebuked Satan, and from that moment, the money that was needed to finish the building started pouring in. Within the next year and a half, we had possessed our promised land. ([show photos, p6](#))



III. HOW DO I PRAY?

A. The way our Lord taught us.

The Model Prayer (*Luke 11:2b-4*)

Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, *that* one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."

² So He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Our Father—**RELATIONSHIP**

Which art^[b] in heaven – **RECOGNITION**

NOTE: What battle can't you face and win when the Creator of the Universe is your Dad? There is NONE greater, NONE stronger, and NONE wiser. Don't fear! Trust.

Hallowed be Thy name—ADORATION

NOTE: We don't have to worry about God's motive—He's HOLY and He's LOVE. Worship Him when you fight the enemy, and trust His will to be done His way to His glory.

Thy kingdom come—ANTICIPATION

NOTE: Anticipate the goodness of the LORD. Pray with expectation. The friends who brought the paralytic knew what Jesus could do. That's why they did more than *ask*. That's why they did more than *seek*. That's why they *knocked* until the door opened—even if the door was crafted through the roof.

Thy will be done—CONSECRATION

NOTE: Make sure your will is consecrated to His, for His ways are not ours, nor His thoughts ours. The fact that God would become a man, go to a Cross, die a cruel death for our Salvation is NOT how we would do it. We'd make sure He came like a Super-Hero ([show photo of Iron Man](#)), not riding on a lowly donkey.



B. If you want the rest of the Lord's prayer, take GCG (Guaranteed Christian Growth).



(show photo - GCG 2021 Fall Class)

C. Please, if you've never heard a word I've said today, hear this.

You'll never win, whatever it is you're

facing, without fighting in the prayer closet.

1. *Moses* asked, sought, and knocked for 40 days before he received the Ten Commandments.

2. *Hannah* asked, sought, and knocked for 19 years before she conceived and gave birth to Samuel.

3. *Daniel* asked, sought, and knocked for 21 days before the revelation came.

4. *Jesus* spent a sleepless night, asking, seeking, and knocking, to the point of sweating drops of blood, before He won the battle of Cross.

Where is it you have asked and not sought, sought, and not knocked? Knock. Knock. Knock. Until the door is opened.

C. Jesus said, "Knock, and the door will be opened unto you."

Not *MIGHT* be, but *WILL* be.

PAUSE & PRAY (musical bed while we pray)

IV. INVITATION

The Lord taught us to pray, “Our Father.”

Do you have a relationship with the Father through Jesus the Son? Here's how:

Admit – your sins have separated you from God.
(Psa 14:1-3; Rom 3: 23);

Believe – that God did something about your sins through Jesus Christ. (The final Pascal Lamb/Messiah.)
(Lev 17:10; Heb 9: 19-22);

Commit – yourself to His righteousness by confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior. (Isa 53:5; Col 1:22);

Do it today! (Isa 49:8; 2 Cor 6:2).

Father in Heaven, I'm sorry for the things I've done that are wrong: I am a sinner; forgive me. Thank You for loving me and sending your Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for my sin. Holy Spirit come into my heart; Jesus be my Lord and Savior. I give You my life. Amen.