



[Understanding the Christ](#)

## **Episode 27 - Ask, Seek, Knock — Finding the True Christ**

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Vodcast Website: [www.scottdtgreiv.podbean.com](http://www.scottdtgreiv.podbean.com)

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Scott Stanley of DTG Ministries offers an old-fashioned, plain Bible study focused on Matthew 7:7-13, urging listeners to "ask, seek, and knock" for God's truth. He emphasizes the Holy Spirit as God's understanding, the need to leave apostasy and creedal habits, and the importance of growing in the Father's revealed love.

The episode explains New Jerusalem, the narrow way to life, and the fivefold ministry as gifts to help believers be redeemed in their thinking and live out righteousness. It calls listeners to seek truth, connect with those who teach the only begotten Son, and stand ready to follow Christ above all else.

Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to KJV for verbatim wording.

This is Scott Stanley with DTG Ministries, Understanding the Christ, looking at the deep things of God. I made a decision in this particular podcast or video cast to simplify things and just give a Bible study... an old-fashioned Bible study, looking at Understanding the Christ, keeping in mind that the world is in apostasy.

The Christian world has been in an apostasy since the days of the apostles, and it's going to last to the end of the world. What we are trying to do is come out of the apostasy, and that's what the book of Revelation is about. So what I want to do is talk to people who have found these videos. You found Podbean.com, you found the website thelambslove.org, and we're just simply going to continue to lay a foundation of truth.

What I want to do is turn to Matthew chapter 7, and I'm going to start reading at verse 7.

Mat 7:7 Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Now, let me just stop right there for a minute. Ask, seek, and knock. Everything Christ said here to ask, seek, and knock... It's all positive. *Ask, and it'll be given. Knock, it'll be open. Seek, and you'll find it.* So why in the world would this be, as it's put in Zechariah chapter 4:10, *"This is the day of small things"*? Doesn't it just seem logical that every Christian would want to know the truth about the Messiah, and if given truth, they would start searching that out and begin to discover the apostasy that they've been in?

I mean, think about it. Ask, seek, and knock. and you'll have a positive response from God. So why aren't there more people? They're not really asking, are they? They're not seeking and knocking for the Lord. They're just simply trying to prove what they've already been told, and they're comfortable with that. So again, I'm praying that people who are searching for truth would find us here and ask, seek, and knock with us, that we might all find answers together.

Mat 7:8 For everyone one that asks, receives; he that seeks, finds; to him that knocks, it shall be opened unto you.

Again, it's all positive. It's all positive.

Mat 7:9 For what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?

Mat 7:10 Or if he asks for a fish, will you give him a serpent?

Mat 7:11 If then, being evil, you know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Now, what I want to do is compare this to Luke 11:13.

Luk 11:13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Now, Matthew just simply put, "give good things." But the best thing God could give anybody is his understanding. His understanding of humanity, where we are in iniquity, and how we can come out of it. That is what the Holy Spirit is. If you ask, seek, and knock, he will give you the Holy Spirit. He is your Father. He is not trying to hold that back.

Why don't we then have the Holy Spirit? What is going on that everybody is following some Trinity God that doesn't exist? It isn't anywhere in the Bible. Yet they will try to convince you that it is. Why would they do that? Because they've been told the Holy Spirit is a third God, and he will come and, I guess, get in your body or get in your mind or something... without realizing that the Spirit comes from the Father to the Son, to the apostles, and to us (Rev 1:1).

Remember what he says in Ephesians 2:20, that our faith is based on the teachings of the apostles and the prophets. The apostles wrote the New Testament to give you God's understanding of the Old Testament. So today we are determining truth, hearing truth, being spoken by people who have received the Holy Spirit from heaven (1Pt 1:12). If that be true, they're going to have a different slant on what you're reading.

Now, if we could understand Isaiah 65:17-18, *"I create a new heaven, a new earth. I create Jerusalem..."* Think about it. *I'm going to give you a new heaven, a new earth. I create Jerusalem.* Jerusalem, according to Revelation 21, is a symbol of the tabernacle of God (Rev 21:1-3). The tabernacle is what is carrying God. God is in that tabernacle. It's the Holy Spirit. The understanding that God possesses, he calls the Holy Spirit. It is his emotional side (Gal 4:26; Mat 5:14).

So, if you ask, seek, and knock, he will most definitely give you his Holy Spirit. But to do that, you're going to need a new heaven and a new earth in your understanding. We've got to come to a place where we can broaden our scope of thinking. We've got to realize that God is spirit, and those who worship him, the Father, must worship him in spirit and in truth (Jhn 4:24).

So Jesus said, *"The words I speak to you, they are spirit, and they are truth (life)"* (Jhn 6:63). The words are spirit. *Life is in the spirit, not in the letter* (2Co 3:6). Life is in the spirit, God's understanding of the book, not in the letter of the book. You take the letter of the book and you put your own meanings to it without realizing God has some other way of seeing that. God has another way of seeing what you're reading.

And that is the way we want to understand it. We want God to reveal himself to us, and we want to have the courage and the humility to live what he is revealing. Ask, seek, and knock. He will love to give you the Holy Spirit.

But New Jerusalem is something that we're all going to have to contend with. New Jerusalem, he's going to spread the heavens, form the foundation of the earth, and create Jerusalem, the city of God (Rev 3:12). This is the city of God. At the end of the world, there are two cities, Babylon and New Jerusalem. Babylon is confusion about God. New Jerusalem is having the understanding of God and his love toward us, his love toward all of humanity.

So if I could get back, I want to get to a certain point here in Matthew 7.

Mat 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever you would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Remember, *love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, love your neighbor as yourself* (Mat 22:37-40). Whatever you would have done to you, do to them. It's just difficult to do that when you don't possess the Holy Spirit of God. God knows this. He needs to give us an understanding of ourselves, of the people in the world, what we're up against, and how we can remain in a gracious attitude toward them... to be gracious, to let grace govern your heart. govern your life.

Mat 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many there be which will go in thereat:

Mat 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads to life, and few there be that find it.

Now broad is the way that leads to destruction, and Jesus is saying all you've got to do is ask, seek, and knock, and he will answer you. He wants to give you the Holy Spirit. He's your Father. He wants to give you the Holy Spirit. So why are there so many people being destroyed? Why is this so narrow?

I have a lot of ideas about that. One thing that I have seen as I've been involved in the churches, the universal church... I know people want the truth. They'll go to Bible studies at the church, and I mean, that's what I experienced. But as soon as you start seeing something that contradicts their church creed, they start backing off. They don't want anything to do with you.

Now, let me tell you, there is a very important verse in Proverbs 4.

Pro 4:18 The path of the just is as a shining light. It shines more and more unto the perfect day.

The light that you're walking in, and God says He is light (1Jn 1:5), the light that you're walking in should be increasing day by day. You should be getting a greater understanding of God. You should have a greater understanding of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You should be growing in that, getting brighter and brighter and brighter. But that isn't what I experienced in the Universal Church because of their creeds. They have creeds that you can't contradict, and if you do that, it scares them to death.

So let me give you a point of reference here. Rule of thumb: Churches do not change. Individuals do. And when you begin to connect with the truth and make the needed changes in your life, you're going to find yourself needing to separate from those people who are holding you down. You need to be redeemed from every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. That "people" are the people in your church.

You need to be redeemed so you can stand with the Lord. Now, we read a verse a while ago that used the word "gift." Matthew 7:11.

Mat 7:11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children...

And we turned over to Luke 11:13 and saw that gift of the Holy Spirit. But I want you to see it in yet another place. Ephesians 4:8.

Eph 4:8 Wherefore he says, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

What are those gifts that he gave us? Well, the gifts he has given unto men are the fivefold ministry: Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Eph 4:11). He isn't saying here that he gave the apostle the gift of being an apostle. He is saying he gave the apostle as a gift to his church. Some people get to live with and be with the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors, the teachers... and if they're of God, they are going to help you understand and possess the Holy Spirit.

If that's what you're asking, seeking, and knocking, God will put somebody in your life to explain that to you. And then you make every effort to hang on to it because they're going to steal it away. People will try to take that away from you.

Remember, God would have you redeemed in your thinking. That is what salvation is. You're redeemed in the way you think, and then you live that truth... and living that truth will complete your salvation (1Pe 1:9). It will confirm what you know to be true. You believe it, then you act on it. Righteousness by faith and righteousness by works (Jas 2:22). Your works will perfect your faith.

Now, as we go through these videos, I'm trying to put verses up on the screen (I call them location verses) that, as I'm making a statement, I'm putting a verse up to show you where I got that idea or where I believe the Bible is teaching that. Because every single thing I'm teaching you is based on the Bible insofar as I understand it. I'm not going to come on these videos and start giving you my opinions. But I feel like the Lord has given me this ministry of teaching what it means to walk in love.

As I look at my own life, I'm the last person in the world that should be doing this, but God has given me the truth. God has given me the message, and the Lord has told me I was to give the abiding truth. So that's what I'm trying to do, but I'm trying to give it to those who have ears to hear. I know it isn't for everybody. You're at the end of the world. You've got to put Christ first and serve him.

Many people are going to want to enter that kingdom, enter into that place, and they will not be able to. They can't do it. Why? What's holding you back? You've got to have a love and an interest in the truth, and you've got to put God before everybody else. When people in the churches have their creed, they're in apostasy- they won't move beyond that creed... then you need to move. You need to save your soul, remain in truth, let the Lord redeem you, and connect with people who understand the kingdom of God and what it means to possess the Holy Spirit.

The narrow way begins when you accept Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God. When the Lord impresses your heart with that, there literally is no place to go except to find his church that is teaching the only begotten Son of God... how he is personified, he has personified the Holy Spirit, and his work on the cross will redeem you from all iniquity.

That's what we want. We want to find those people, and we want to connect, and we want encouragement in the truth, not discouragement. Encouragement, and be ready to stand for Christ, be ready to give your life if that's what it comes to. Because there's nothing else on the planet that matters, except our salvation and helping another person see that truth.