

# COMMUNICATION WITH GOD

Matt 7 :7-12

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. Communication = an exchange of information
- B. We hear people say: "there is just no communication"
- C. This statement is made in reference to; Husbands & wives, Parents & children, Brethren who disagree, Etc.
- D. Sometimes this lack of communication is a prominent factor in the division of Homes, Churches, businesses
- E. These situations are very serious, however these are just a manifestation of our lack of communication with God and when this is corrected the others will take care of themselves
- F. Does God go week after week without hearing from you or either you listening to Him.

## DISCUSSION

### I. GOD SEEKS COMMUNICATION

- A. He ask us to call upon Him Matt 7:11
  - 1. Pray without ceasing 1Thes 5:17
  - 2. Pray for all men 1Tim 2:1-3
  - 3. Pray one for another Jas 5:16
  - 4. Christ can be touched Heb 4:14-16
- B. Does God find it hard to get a message through to you?
  - 1. He wants us to understand His will Eph 5:17
  - 2. Study to show thyself approved 2Tim 2:15
  - 3. Christ could not get through to some Matt 13:15
  - 4. Is your mind So busy with the cares of this world that Christ can't get through?
  - 5. Does your line always have a busy signal
- C. There are those who pray and God cannot hear
  - 1. They hinder their own prayers 1Pet 3:7
  - 2. Would you cut the wires before you made a call?
  - 3. Some do this when they try to communicate with God

### II. THINGS THAT BLOCK OUR PRAYERS

- A. Substituting prayer for obedience
  - 1. Many of God's blessings are conditional, some things we must do first
    - a. God said sow the field then reap
    - b. Would we pray for harvest on field hadn't sown?
  - 2. Likewise a sinner must express his faith by obedience if he desires salvation Mk 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16
    - a. Yet men pray for salvation without this
    - b. say nothing to do but pray through
- B. Wicked conduct prevents communication Isa 59:1,2
  - 1. Face of lord against them that do evil 1Pet 3:10-12
    - a. Our nation urges prayers of the people in national emergencies

- b. While they do not emphasize righteousness
  - c. They support pornography, filthy movies, violence easy divorce, drunken murderers; Etc.
- 2. God only hears prayers of righteous Jas 5:16; 1Jhn 3:22
- C. Lack of faith Jas 1:5-7
  - D. Ask to satisfy our own lust Jas 4:3
  - E. Failure to forgive others Matt 6:14,15

### III. THINGS THAT HINDER GOD'S BEING HEARD

- A. Our failure to study
  - 1. Many never study 2Tim 2:15
  - 2. many do not listen and meditate upon the word they hear preached Acts 17:11
  - 3. They do no homework at all
- B. Traditions Mk 7:7-9
  - 1. God would tell us through His word that many religious practices are not authorized.
    - a. But grandpa & grandma did this and this!
    - b. Traditions have been here so long we won't listen to God when he tries to communicate with us
    - c. Instrumental music, Reverends, sprinkling, Etc.
  - 2. Protestants object to Catholic traditions yet they are blinded by their own
  - 3. Even in the Church this is true
- C. Prejudice - determine beforehand Matt 21:7-11; 27:22-25
  - 1. My mind is made up don't confuse me with the facts
    - a. because our mind is already made up we don't hear what God wants us to hear
    - b. Prejudice shuts ears to plain words
  - 2. Repent and Be baptized Acts 2:38 Plain words yet unaccepted because of prejudice

## CONCLUSION

- A. The line of communication runs both ways
  - 1. Have you cut the line going to God and He can't hear
  - 2. Do you stay so busy that you can't listen to God speak to you through His word
  - 3. Are you listening to God's word spoken as coming from just an ordinary man or as Go's word
- B. The line must be in good working order both ways to be acceptable.
  - 1. Leave the line open -take prejudice away- so God can talk to you
  - 2. Be sure your life is such that your prayers are not hindered