

Full Time Mission Message #12

Why do we need to ask?

Elder / Sister xxxxx,

Have you ever wondered why Heavenly Father expects us to ask for the things we need when he already knows what we need. Have you ever wondered doesn't he just give us what we need when we need it. He knows where the people are who are seeking the truth and will join the church. Why do you need to ask Him to lead you to them? Why do you need to ask and then go through the difficult task of following the spiritual promptings to get your answer? Well here may be a part of the answer to that question.

When a baby needs a drink we give it to them without them having to ask. We buy insurance for our child because I know they will need it when they are in college later in life without their having to ask. If your baby has a dirty diaper you just change it, the baby doesn't have to ask. It is in a sense almost like we are a God to them with their very lives in our hands. They are totally dependent on us to take care of them and give them not just what they want but also what they need without them having to ask.

When our children are adults things change. We still know what they need but we stop giving it to them without their asking. Why? If you are absolutely certain that if you gave it to them or told them to do something it would make their life better why don't you just do it? Why don't you just go do it for them? BECAUSE THEY MAY NOT WANT IT!!!!

When we become adults we change. We are not like a baby in the care of our parents any more. We have free agency and we don't have to do something just because someone else tells us to. Free Agency is one of the greatest gifts we have in this life. So when we have a child who is an adult and we may still want to "PLAY GOD" and just give something to them because they need it. However you may find that they may not want it. They may have other ideas. They may not take it just because you are trying to force it on them.

So God knows what we need. He also knows what we want. It is only logical to realize that every person should be a member of this church. It would be a great blessing to them. THEY NEED IT!!!! So why doesn't he just MAKE THEM... or DO IT FOR THEM? Why do we have to ask? Why does he make us ask before we receive? That is such a profound lesson for us to learn in life. He has to try to entice us to want to and then to ASK. If we are not willing to ask, if we are too proud to take it, if we are too rebellious to have it even when we need it, if we refuse to change even when He warns us, God is bound. Why? Because of our free agency. UNLESS WE ASK HE CAN NOT.

Several places in the scriptures He said to us, knock and it shall be opened unto you, ask and ye shall receive. However if you turn that around and say if we don't knock, if we don't ask, then God is bound by the laws of free agency and he cannot give it to us even if He knows we need it.

Here is an interesting scripture on that subject. Look what is right in the middle of it:

D&C 11:21 Seek not to declare my word, but first seek to obtain my word, and then shall your tongue be loosed; *then, if you desire*, you shall have my Spirit and my word, yea, the power of God unto the convincing of men.

Isn't that interesting. The Lord says ONLY IF YOU DESIRE. Only if you ASK. Then if you desire and ask He will send forth the blessings. Life's little lessons come in such subtle ways some times. That is such a profound lesson we all need to learn, not just as parents but as individuals finding our way in life. We have to ASK!

Brother and Sister Vail

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