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He Didn't Ask

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Ask and Receive

In John 14:13,14 Jesus said, **“And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son....If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.”** Jesus did not say to ask your neighbor, or your friends, or anyone else. Jesus said to ASK HIM, and He would do it.

When I received Jesus as LORD and Savior of my life back in 1979, I got excited about being a Christian. It did not take long for me to realize that I could ask Jesus when I needed help and He would help me.

One evening I was talking to a woman who lived about fifty miles from me. She had a problem with her electric typewriter. It wouldn't run. She asked if I knew any place in the large city where I lived that would fix her typewriter while she waited for it? I did not know of any such place, so I said to her, *“If you want it fixed by tomorrow, you'll have to wait up for me and I will come and fix it for you.”* I did not know anything about fixing electric typewriters, but for some reason the words came out of my mouth. Today, I know it was the Holy Spirit prompting me to speak those words, for He wanted me to experience the supernatural power of God to give wisdom and knowledge to those who would ask.

As I traveled to her home I prayed, *“LORD, You don't want me to lie, I told her I would fix it for her. LORD, I don't know what is wrong, or what to do. You show me, You know what is wrong and how to fix it. Thank You Jesus for the answer.”* After getting to her home it only took about twenty minutes to repair her typewriter. It was as if I knew just what parts to remove, how to remove them and just as if I had done it hundreds of times before.

The LORD has supernatural wisdom and knowledge. He knows everything, and will help us when we ask Him. All we have to do is ask, and believe in our heart all that He has taught us in the Bible.

In 1982, I was still in the television repair business. After receiving the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, I spent a lot of time praying and studying my Bible. I would go to work at my shop about 9:00am. I usually did not start to do any repair work until sometime in the afternoon. I spent all the time I could reading and studying my Bible. I talked to customers when they came in, usually talking to them about the LORD and what He could do for them. When there were no customers in the shop, I went back to studying my Bible.

Usually by 1:00 or 2:00pm I would start fixing television sets. I found that I could lay my hands upon the television sets, and asked the LORD, *“LORD, You know what is wrong with this television set, help me to repair it!”* In most cases, by the time I got the back off the television set, I knew what was wrong. I knew which part to replace, and what to do. It did not take long to repair the television sets.

Being that I charged for my work by the type of work I did and not by the hours it took to repair the sets, I made more money repairing television sets only a few hours a day, than I used to make working from 9:00am to 6:00pm. I only worked on the television sets a few hours, in the afternoons. I spent most of my time studying my Bible and witnessing to customers as they came in. God knows what is in our heart.

Let me add this note for those who are in business and want to talk to people about the LORD. When I first thought about talking to my customers about the LORD, the devil put a lot of

thoughts in my mind, trying to convince me that if I started talking to my customers about the LORD, I would lose many customers. The devil kept putting thoughts in my mind like, “do not speak to your customers about the LORD, or they will never come back to your business.”

I found out that the devil is a liar. The more I talked to customers about the LORD the more they came in. It was as though my customers told other customers and I increased in business steadily. Many people came in just to talk to me about the LORD. They wanted to know how come I was so blessed and they were having difficulties in their lives. The more we raise up Jesus, the more we will experience everything working for our good.

In the fall of 1991 I was in need of a different automobile. The one I had was twelve years old, and getting tired. The LORD helped me many times to keep it running until that time. One day, my son said to me, “*Dad, you are just going to have to give up on this car and get a newer one. If I were you, I wouldn't try to make it through the winter with this one.*” I felt he was right and I spoke to my wife about getting another vehicle.

I always wanted a Dodge Caravan or Plymouth Voyager, something I could put more luggage in when we went out ministering in other churches. For three years I kept reminding my wife, some day I am going to get a Dodge Caravan or Plymouth Voyager. That day we prayed and asked the LORD to help us find a vehicle.

On Monday morning early, I called a friend, who was an automobile salesman in a large dealership. I said to him, “*I need a different vehicle, now! I just cannot wait any longer.*” He said, “*I may have one coming in today, I'll call you if I think it is what you want.*” I said to him, “*But I don't want to spend over \$3,000.*” I believe in being a good steward with the LORD’s money. A new 1991 vehicle like the one I wanted was selling for about \$18,000.

That morning I started to look for a used Dodge Caravan or Plymouth Voyager. The first place I looked was a used car dealer. I knew that he had one. It was a 1985 low line Dodge Caravan which ran good, but was in need of some minor repairs. The LORD has been very good to me, in giving me the knowledge to repair my own vehicles when needed, so I was willing to make the necessary repairs myself. He had an asking price of \$2,895 on the window. When I told him my present car was about ready for the junk yard, so I would be paying cash for his vehicle, he said to me, “*What kind of car do you have?*” I told him, and he said, “*I could use an older vehicle like that for a particular part off it.*” I asked him, “*What is the least amount you will take for this Dodge Caravan?*” He thought a little and said to me, “*\$2,300 plus your car.*” I felt very good about that price, no witness in my spirit against that price or that vehicle.

You know, as a child of God you must listen to your spirit, and if you get any indication from your spirit against what is said, you must say, “No, and not go any further with the deal.” But, I had no witness from the Holy Spirit against that vehicle or the price. I told him I wanted to look at a few other vehicles first and I would get back with him if I was still interested.

That day I looked at about nine or ten other vehicles similar. Some did not have the necessary features I wanted and I passed them up. Others were much higher priced, and the dealers would not come down to a price that I felt right within my spirit, so I had to pass them up.

After returning home I said to my wife, “*I think I may have found the right vehicle. The dealer only wants \$2,300 and my car. In my spirit I feel good about this deal, even though it does need some work on it. Would you like to come with me to see it?*” The two of us picked up our daughter after school that day and all three of us went to see the vehicle. My wife would have been

satisfied, but we noticed our daughter wasn't well pleased with the interior, she wanted something better.

Wanting to keep the amount we paid for a vehicle as low as possible, being my wife and I had no witness from the Spirit within us against the vehicle after taking it for a ride, I offered to buy it. I signed a contract and went and got him \$100 in cash to bind the contract.

After I returned home that day, about 6:00pm, the telephone rang. It was my friend from the dealership. He said to me, "*Merle, I think I have just the vehicle you want, just took it in on trade.*" I hesitated a minute, then said to him, "*I just put \$100 down on a 1985 Dodge Caravan for \$2,300.*" He said to me, "*Merle, I still think you ought to see this one, it's really a great deal for \$3,000. Why not come and see it anyway?*" I said, "*Ok, I'll be right over.*"

I drove over to the dealership and saw a 1986 Plymouth Voyager, top of the line vehicle with all the extras, even many features I kind of wanted but never expected to get. It looked like a new vehicle, no dents, no rust, and ran good. It was everything I ever wanted in a vehicle and more.

He said, "*If you like it, bring your wife over and let her see it.*" He said he would be there in the morning until 10:00am. and we should come and take it for a drive. I went home and told my wife and our daughter about it. They both said, "*If it is what you say, maybe we ought to get that one instead of the other one.*"

Now, we had a situation. We wanted the second one. Now what can we do about the contract I had already signed for the first one?

Knowing we have a God Who cares about us, and "**with God all things are possible**" we said, "*Let's get the one for \$3,000 instead and pray that God will get us out of the contract on the other one.*" We prayed, and also called a few friends in the LORD who know the love and grace of God. So, a number of brothers and sisters in the LORD prayed that evening.

The next morning my wife and I went to the dealership to see the 1986 Plymouth Voyager. We took it for a ride and the salesman said to us while on the road, "*This has to be some kind of divine intervention for this Van to come in the very day you called.*" Little did he know that we have a God that "**with God all things are possible.**"

I then said to him, "*We will take this one!*" He said to me, "*The other dealer should give you your money back, but if he doesn't, you can let him take you to court to try and make you take the vehicle.*" I said to him, "*Don't worry, we already prayed and God will have him give me my money back and release me from the contract.*" You always know that whatsoever you ask the Father in Jesus' name, He will do it. Jesus said in John 16:24 "**Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.**" God wants us to enjoy life here on earth.

My wife and I went over to the used car dealer and I said to her, "*You stay in the car and pray in the spirit, not in your natural language, but only in the spirit while I go in and talk to the dealer about releasing me from the contract.*" When I got to talk to him, I told him what happened the night before, that we found another vehicle, top of the line for only \$3,000. I asked him if I could have my \$100 back and get out of the contract. He said, "*You know I don't have to do this, but I am an honest man, and I will let you out of the contract. Here is your \$100, just give me the signed contract.*" I gave him the contract and he gave me the one hundred-dollar bill I had given him the day before. Then I said to him, "*You know, I don't need my old vehicle that I was going to trade in. I'll give it to you free, if you want it, so that I can take the license plates off to put on the one I just bought.*" He said, "*I would appreciate that.*" He was happy to get my old vehicle.

After the deals were complete, I felt that God was letting us know that, *“It is up to us. It is our choice. We could have the lesser one for \$2,300 or we could have the better one for \$3,000 which ever we choose.”* That is why I never had any check in my spirit over either one of the vehicles.

One thing I noticed was, when the LORD works out things in our lives, everyone involved gets blessed. The Dealer that I bought the Van from got blessed. He sold the vehicle without any obligations on his part. He got the price he wanted for the vehicle. We got blessed with the vehicle we wanted. The used Car dealer got blessed. He got my old vehicle free. He was happy to get that vehicle. I even saw him months later, still driving that vehicle that I gave him. God blessed all of us.

There is nothing too small and insignificant to God. God loves to help those who ask. I know a sister in the LORD who talks to God every day. Whenever she needs something, no matter how insignificant it may seem, she still asks the LORD.

Whenever she needs to go somewhere in her automobile, she always asks the LORD for a good parking place when she gets there. Almost, every time she gets where she is going, there is a parking space open right in the front of the place where she is going. It hardly ever fails.

When someone calls for prayer, she just simply asks the LORD to answer her prayer, and then says, Thank You LORD! Then she tells the other person, *“It’s done. Your prayer is answered.”*

Many times, the person is in a very bad situation, and she just prays, and tells them, *“It’s done, it’s finished!”* Not too long after she prays, the other person calls and tells her, the LORD answered her prayer and they are doing very well.

Another sister in the LORD could tell of numerous times when she prayed and the LORD answered, almost immediately. If someone lost an item, no matter what it is, she would pray and they would find the item within minutes. Sometimes they would find what they lost in a spot where they had just looked. When they looked there, it was not there, but after this sister in the LORD prayed, they would look in the same spot and there it would be.

The LORD cares, even about the little things in our lives. I was in the Television Repair Business for over twenty-five years. All during those years I carried a small screwdriver in my upper left shirt pocket.

I am right-handed and I always put that screwdriver in my left shirt pocket. I never crossed over to put it in my right shirt pocket. Even today, I still carry that small screwdriver in my left shirt pocket. I usually use it to open envelopes when the mail comes.

One day, after getting in the mail, I reached over into my left shirt pocket to get the screwdriver and it was not there. I started looking for it wherever I thought I may have lost it. I could not find it anywhere.

I said to the LORD, *“LORD, I need that screwdriver. I have had it so many years, and I miss not having it. Help me find that screwdriver. Thank You Jesus!”*

Later that day I sat down and reached into my right shirt pocket to get my reading glasses. There was my screwdriver.

ASK GOD

In John 16:24, Jesus was talking about asking God. Jesus is God along with the Father and the Holy Spirit. These three make up the total of God.

In 2 Corinthians 4:4, it says, **“In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”** Satan is called **“the god of this world”**

We need to be sure that we are asking the right God, therefore, Jesus made it plain that He was talking about **“asking God, and He will do it.”** If we do what the Scriptures tell us, we will enjoy life here on earth, and then enjoy eternal life in heaven also.

The reason so many Christians do not enjoy life here on earth is because they go through life trying to make it on their own ability. They try to be good, honest, hardworking people. But, they never ask God or Jesus to help them when they need help.

When many Christians fail, they turn away from God to the world. Many of them get involved in lying, stealing, cheating, and all sorts of things, just trying to get by. Some turn to drugs, crime, and end up in prisons all over the world. They turned away from God to try to make it on their own.

Why didn't they ask God when they needed help? They could have, and God would have helped them. God loves them, and wants to help them, but they do not ask God.

In my life, I learned by my own experiences about asking God, and asking the LORD. I could say, “hundreds of times” I asked God to help me and He helped me. Many of the times God did things for me “supernaturally” when I asked Him. Other times, God would work out all the details using other people to help me. God loves us and wants to help us, “when we ask Him.”

The LORD is faithful to take care of those who are His own, and ask Him when they need something. God wants to supply all our needs. But, He also wants us to obey Him and ask when we have a need.

When we learn to ask the LORD for what we have need of, that is when the LORD answers. Jesus Himself said, **“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you”** (Matt 7:7).

I am sure there are many Christians today who have gone without their needs being met, simply because they never asked the LORD for what they had need of. Many Christians have been taught other ways to try to get their needs met. Yet, if they would believe what Jesus said, and do what Jesus said, it will work for them also.

What would happen if we did not pray or ask the LORD? Most likely nothing, just like with many Christians today. They live like the rest of the world lives, and do things the same way the world does them.

This does not need to be that way with you. You can ask the LORD and He will answer. Whatsoever you ask according to His will, He will do it.

God is Love, and loves to answer prayer.

He didn't Ask

When Jesus was crucified on the Cross of Calvary, there were two thieves crucified along with Jesus. One on His left side, and the other on His right side. In Luke 23:42 it tells us that one of them **“said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.”** When this person said that to Jesus, it says, **“Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.”** Surely, paradise must be a great place to be.

The one that asked Jesus to remember him was a thief, who was crucified because of his crimes. The world does not like thieves. But Jesus said to him **“Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.”** Why would Jesus tell that thief that he would be with Him in paradise?

There are two reasons why Jesus would say that to him. One reason is because when Jesus died on the Cross that day, He paid the price for the sins of the whole world. That included the sins committed by that thief on the cross also.

But did you know that you will not benefit from what Jesus did for you on the Cross of Calvary if you do not ask and receive?

God is love (1 John 4:8). That is the way God is. God loves people. God does not love sin. But God loves people, even those who did sin at one time.

But what about the other thief on the cross? The one on the other side of Jesus. Why didn't Jesus say to him also, **“To day shalt thou be with me in paradise?”** It's simple. He did not ask. Had that thief also asked Jesus to remember him, he would have been received by Jesus and spent eternity with Jesus in paradise also.

Why is it that way? The world we live in was created by God. God loves people so much that He created man in His own likeness and image (Gen. 1:26,27; 2:7). Then, after sin and death entered into mankind, God sent Jesus into the world to save us from sin and death.

But even more important than that, God wants to show us His love by being God to us. God wants to be our God. Not just so that we can go to heaven. But also so that He can help us in our everyday lives here on earth.

How many people today are spending eternity in hell, simply because they did not ask Jesus to be their LORD and Savior? They did not ask God to be their God. They did not ask Jesus to receive them unto eternal life.

If you have not personally asked Jesus to be your LORD and Savior, you should not wait any longer. It is the most important thing you can do in your life. Just ask the LORD, from your heart, to come into your life and be your LORD and Savior. Say a prayer similar to the following:

“LORD Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God. I believe You died for me, and arose again from the dead to be my LORD and Savior. Jesus, come into my life and be my LORD and Savior. I will serve You all the days of my life. Thank You Jesus for becoming my LORD and Savior, Amen.”

From what we see written in the Bible, there are more people in hell than there are in heaven. Almost every one of them that are in hell, are there because they did not ask Jesus to save them or help them when they needed help. If they would have asked, Jesus would have saved them and helped them in every area of their lives.

It's not just so we can go to heaven when we die. It includes everything in our lives here on earth before we die. The whole world could be walking in love and enjoying life here on earth, if

they would ask Jesus to remember them and help them when they need help.

Most of the people today do not think they need help from God. They think they can do it on their own, without God. In John 15:5, Jesus said, “**...without me ye can do nothing.**” God created all things. God loves us. Without God making it possible for us, we cannot do anything. But, “**with God nothing shall be impossible**” (Luke 1:37).

What most people today, including Christians, do not understand is that, they need to “Ask!” Jesus will answer every prayer if they will only pray and ask Him. God will answer every prayer if they will ask Him.

God is for us, not against us (Rom. 8:31). God always loved us. God wants to help us and save us from the works of the devil. All we need to do is ask Him.

If you have questions that you need answers to, we are here to help you get answers. We love helping people get to know God better, and walk with Him every day.

Wherever you are, all over the world, you can get help from us to get to know God and how to receive from God. Just go to the Internet and find our Web sites at: www.handsforjesus.org and also www.handsforjesus.cc

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