



SD#98 - Finding Perspective - Examining Where We've Been

Matthew 7:7 (NIV)

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

Reflection Questions:

- 1) What is something or someone you find yourself listening to?
- 2) Do you often find it difficult to “peek” into your past?
- 3) How often do you ask God for things?



Seeing Deep Ministries

Extended Devotion:

Do you often find yourself avoiding the past? Perhaps thinking about your past, even for a mere moment, causes anxiety to well up in your soul, and you immediately shut down. Friend, I know the feeling. Dwelling on the past can often bring up pain, shame, and regret with accompanying heartache and fear. But there is also healing and sanctification in remembrance. We can even find peace and experience hope when we allow ourselves to look and learn from past experiences.

Throughout the Old Testament, mighty leaders, such as Joshua and Moses, exhort the people to build places or monuments of remembrance. This was so they could remember the awesome, saving power of God's hand. I believe we can also glean mighty nuggets of truth that are applicable for us today. While God doesn't want us dwelling on our past mistakes to the point we're immovable. He does want us drawing deeper into His presence as we seek His peace and strength. When we seek those, we end up placing His perspective in place of our own. **Friends, God's perspective is timeless.** His viewpoint is the only one that will make sense of our circumstances in the fallen world in which we live.

When we are tempted by others around us with conspiracy theories and pessimistic views of life, may we turn toward the Truth we have claimed. The Word of God has the power to change the world's view and it begins with us. **God's perfect perspective sees through cultural and perspective changes.** We need only ask Him for the revelation of situational truth that will place our perspective on the straight and narrow.

Philippians 3:13-14(ESV) says, "*Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do; forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.* Paul remembered the past, but he did not allow himself to dwell in his past sins or circumstances. His perspective remained fixed upon heavenly goals. **While we wait for Christ's return, may we ground our perspective in His word and not man's.** Let us live out His perspective for the world to see.

Application:

1. Grab your journal and write down Matthew 7:7. Let this remind you to ask everything in Jesus' name.



2. List out some strongholds of your past that are keeping you from embracing God's perspective on your life. Pray over them and ask for Christ's strength over them.

Takeaway:

God's timeless perspective gives us focus in the past, present, and future.

