

**W**hat do you do when you feel you need to ask someone for something, but you are afraid it's not going to go your way? Asking anything can be full of risks. What do you do if your request is mocked, rejected, spurned, or ignored? Do you remember going back and forth between your parents trying to work them independently, and then they discovered your devious scheme? On a far more unsettling level, what's the risk factor for you when you ask God for something in prayer? Didn't Jesus urge His disciples to just ask?

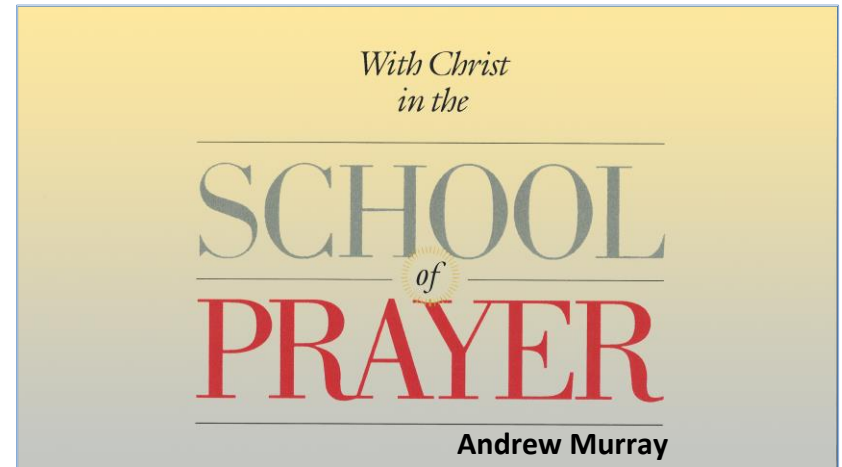
**Your Father \_\_\_\_\_ what you need before you ask**

**Your Father \_\_\_\_\_ you to ask**

**Your Father \_\_\_\_\_ to those who ask**

## Personal Application and Interaction

1. What do you do when you want to ask someone for something, yet you are afraid it's going to be a hard sell?
2. Jesus said, "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them...." What do you think is the secret to just asking in prayer?
3. How are you likely to pray when you are desperately concerned for the physical, spiritual, or emotional well-being of a friend or loved one?
4. How do you approach God when you are struggling with anger or bitterness toward someone in your life who you cannot avoid?
5. What has God shown you as you have been asking Him to teach you to pray?
6. Describe some of the good gifts God has given you recently. So what are you doing about it? (Consider a healthy application of Psalm 100 to start this application to this question)



# Just Ask

**Matthew 6:7-8; 7:7-11**

**Pastor John Ploog  
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