

# Minster Bethel Congregational Church (MBCC)

---

18/07/2021 -- Women of the Bible –Aksah

The woman who dared to ask



Next week is our zoom

“Church & Chat”

A short church reflection with a hymn, reading, (children’s activity), prayer, “thought for the week” and then a time to chat. If you need help to join please ask any deacon

Join us next week at 10 am:

Topic: Church and Chat

Time: This is a recurring meeting

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75124173520?pwd=QVB4WUx6QXg3Y3hQc1NQYkxINmozZz09>

Meeting ID: 751 2417 3520

Passcode: Bethel2021

All lockdown services can be found at: [www.mbccs.co.uk](http://www.mbccs.co.uk)

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you  
Mark 7:7

### Good morning and welcome to this week's thoughts.

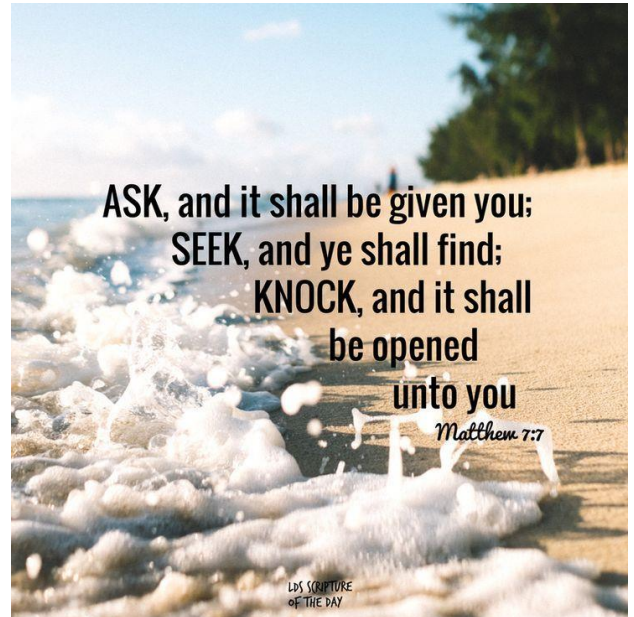
Our 1<sup>st</sup> hymn for today is: "Seek Ye First The Kingdom of God"

[Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God \[with lyrics for congregations\] - YouTube](#)

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God  
And his righteousness,  
And all these things  
Shall be added unto you,  
Allelu, alleluia.

Man shall not live by bread alone,  
But by every word  
That proceeds from the mouth of God  
Allelu, alleluia.

Ask, and it shall be given unto you.  
Seek and ye shall find.  
Knock and it shall be opened unto you  
Allelu, alleluia.



### The reading is Joshua 15:13-19

[Joshua 15:13-19 NIVUK - In accordance with the LORD's command - Bible Gateway](#)

<sup>13</sup> In accordance with the LORD's command to him, Joshua gave to Caleb son of Jephunneh a portion in Judah – Kiriath Arba, that is, Hebron. (Arba was the forefather of Anak.) <sup>14</sup> From Hebron Caleb drove out the three Anakites – Sheshai, Ahiman and Talmai, the sons of Anak. <sup>15</sup> From there he marched against the people living in Debir (formerly called Kiriath Sepher). <sup>16</sup> And Caleb said, 'I will give my daughter Aksah in marriage to the man who attacks and captures Kiriath Sepher.' <sup>17</sup> Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's brother, took it; so Caleb gave his daughter Aksah to him in marriage.

<sup>18</sup> One day when she came to Othniel, she urged him<sup>Ⓜ</sup> to ask her father for a field. When she got off her donkey, Caleb asked her, 'What can I do for you?'

<sup>19</sup> She replied, 'Do me a special favour. Since you have given me land in the Negev, give me also springs of water.' So Caleb gave her the upper and lower springs.

## Dare to Ask

For the last few weeks we have been looking at the 12 Apostles, over the next few weeks we are going to look at some of the ladies in the bible, in particular those that we may know little about.

Today we are looking at Aksah, daughter of Caleb.

Aksah, daughter of Caleb, the man who followed Moses as the leader of Israel grew up in Ancient Israel at a time when society was defined through the inheritance of the male. This in reality meant she was her fathers to give away hence her being presented as a prize.

Today, we probably shudder at the thought of being married of as a prize, but times change through history and at this time this was the custom. Aksah didn't really have a choice in this matter.

That is what makes this Lady so amazing, in a time when she was a prize she was still brave enough to ask to have hers and her husbands needs met.

Water was vital in the Negev desert. Aksah is specifically asking for springs, so we can speculate that she didn't have any water sources on the land Caleb had given to her. Whatever the original water situation on the land, notice what her father does — he gives her both the upper and lower springs.

In spite of the limits within her culture, she confidently made this request of her father. There was nothing wrong with asking; so she asked and got what she requested and more.

Isn't that exactly like our Heavenly Father? In spite of all the good things God has already given to us, when we come to Him with requests of necessity or deep desire, He hears us and responds. And not only does He respond, He responds with something better than what we originally asked for.

We know that doesn't mean God gives us whatever we want, whenever we want it. Sometimes His response is a period of silence. Sometimes His response is a firm no. But God does always give us whatever is *best*, just like a loving father would. When we understand we have a loving father listening to our prayers, we can rest securely and peacefully in what He gives to us. His choices are always wise.

We too can need to be like Aksah and boldly ask for Gods help. His response may exceed your expectations.



**Our chorus today is “Ask Ask Ask”**

Ask, ask, ask and it will be given you  
 Seek, seek, seek and ye shall find,  
 Knock, knock, knock the door will be opened unto you,  
 Your heavenly Father is so kind.

He knows what is best for His children,  
 In body, soul and mind.

So

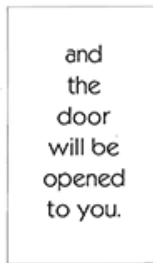
Ask, ask, ask,  
 Knock, knock, knock  
 Seek and Ye shall find.

**Today’s Pray:**

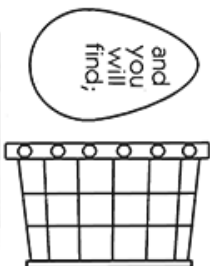
*Lord, Help us to be like Aksah, confident in asking. We know Jesus told us You will respond. Help to understand Your response, Your will and to be patient in waiting on Your time.*

**Amen.**

**Matthew 7:7**



TAPE along this edge



TAPE along this edge of door



Color. Cut across horizontal line. Mount top strip on construction paper. Cut out 4 pieces on bottom strip. Tape ASK box over "and it will be given to you," along top edge. Don't let tape extend over corners (so you can lift entire flap). Match basket outlines and tape or glue basket in place, along sides and bottom edge. Use glue sparingly and only on very edges, as egg has to slide inside. Be sure to leave top and middle free of glue. Place egg inside basket (part of egg will show). Tape door over corresponding box, along left edge. Again, don't let tape extend over corners.

Lift the mouth flap after you say "Ask". Pull out the egg after you say "Seek" (then place back into the basket). Pretend to "Knock" on the door, then open door to finish verse.

