

Matthew 7:11

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

I know sometimes people will be afraid to ask God what His will is for them in regards to ministry, because they are afraid God will send them to some remote jungle in Africa and witness to headhunters, or something like that. If you think about it, it is actually kind of funny, because out of all people around the world, everyone is worried about the jungles of Africa, like that's the only place that the gospel needs to be preached.

But what if God decided to send to you Hawaii or the Bahamas or Australia (I've always wanted to go there) or somewhere that you always wanted to go. My favorite place is Israel and I have been there three times already, and I am a contractor in the medical device industry, and I was thinking how cool it would be if the Lord sent me to Israel for a few years to live and work, with my family joining me, I have even asked God about it... So we will see what He does.

But back to my first thought, because I used to wonder if God would send me somewhere that I really don't want to go. We seem to forget that as Jesus was telling this parable, that He asked the question, if we *know how to give good gifts to your children.*

Yes we do know how to give good things to our children and if our kids ask us to take them to Disneyland for vacation this summer, we wouldn't say, no way, I am making you go to Death Valley Arizona for your summer vacation and experience how it's 120 degree in the shade. No, we wouldn't do that, because we want what's best and good for our kids.

So Jesus goes on to say: *how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!* I just noticed there is an exclamation mark at the end of that sentence, I didn't put it there, but it's part of what Jesus meant, meaning that God will give us good gifts if we ask Him for them. But, they must be good gifts in His eyes, not ours.

So I will ask you right out, are you afraid to ask for God's will in your life because you are afraid He's going to give you something horrible to do? If we just read that God gives good gifts to those who ask him, then why be afraid, because the only one who would give you something bad is the devil, because he does not care one bit about you.

† **John 10:10** *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.* (underlined for emphasis)

Notice what I underlined? ***“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.”*** But notice what Jesus says that He wants for us if we ask His will. ***“I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”*** God want’s to give us abundant life if we ask for His will to be done in our lives.

So sure, God may send you to the deepest jungles in Africa, if that’s where you want to go. But then I believe that God has already placed in our hearts His will, and where we should go, and how He wants to use us there. So ask the Lord to reveal that to you, and then go do it.

- † **Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT2)** ***“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”***

- † **Matthew 7:8** ***For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.***