

## James 1:6-8

Ask in Faith

Ask ...

- I. What Do You Really Need?
  - A. Personal Inventory
  - B. Prioritized Prayer
- II. What Do You Really Want?
  - A. Facing Both Ways?
  - B. Or Fixed on Grace?
- III. What Do You Really Expect?
  - A. Dealing with Doubt
  - B. Anticipating Results
  - C. Submitting to Wisdom

... and watch.

### **Children, Listen ...**

1. What are some of the things you think you need to ask God for?
2. Does God hear our prayers even when we feel like He might not?
3. Why is it good that God answers our prayers differently than we might hope sometimes?
4. Is it always easy to trust God with the prayer "Your will be done?" Why?
5. Is it always best to want what God wants for us? How will that help us in prayer?

## Who is in Question?

Wouldn't you love to be able to pray prayers that were never clouded with shadows of doubt? Unfortunately most of us struggle to bask in the full sunshine of God's faithfulness because uncertainty overcasts our faith. We believe, but we need help with our unbelief. One thing that might help is a more intense focus upon the God to Whom we pray and what He desires for us over and above our own weak self and our desires which are so often amiss. He is mighty and wise, we are weak and often foolish. So, if it is our desire that He would be our strength and our wisdom, we have to trust that He will just that. Our true prayers of faith will certainly drive us to call selves into question quite often. Such prayers may even be peppered with questions about issues that thoroughly perplex us. But prayers of faith will never question the character of God and the wisdom of His ways. Don't let doubt darken your prayer life. Instead trust Him and His face will shine upon you, He will be gracious to you; He will lift up his countenance upon you and He will give you peace.