S.O.H.L. <u>WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS</u> Pronounced "Soul"

October 8, 2012

The Best For You & Me

MATTHEW 7:7-11 NLT – (7) "Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. (8) For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. (9) "You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? (10) Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! (11) So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.

Ms. Cindy Kasper once wrote, "With a handful of Cheerios, I tip-toed across the deck in my backyard trying to sneak up on the fish in the pond. Perhaps it was my shadow on the water . . . or maybe I wasn't as sneaky as I thought. As I approached the railing, 15 enormous goldfish raced toward me, their large mouths frantically opening and closing in eager anticipation of an expected treat.

So, why did the fish so furiously flap their fins? Because my mere presence set off a conditioned response in their tiny fish brains that told them I had something special to give them. If only we always had such a response to God and His desire to give us good gifts—a response based on our past experience with Him that flows from a deep-seated knowledge of His character.

Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God. God desires to equip us perfectly for what He wants us to do, and He invites us to "come boldly" to find mercy and grace in time of need (**Heb. 4:16**). When we as God's children are living in faith, we can have an exciting expectancy and a quiet confidence that God will give us exactly what we need, when we need it (**Matt. 7:8-11**).

SCRIPTURE READING - PSALMS 84:11

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – If God sends us on stony paths, He provides strong shoes.