RUSSELL SANDERS 5-31-2024 WHOM DO YOU ASK?

When you pray for something who do you ask? Some pray to the Virgin Mary and ask her for it. I perceive that most born again believers ask Jesus, but how did Jesus instruct us to pray?

In John 15:16b Jesus said, *"…ye shall ask of the Father in my name, He may give it [to] you."* All we receive comes from the Father.

You might say, but John 14:13-14 says, **"Whatsoever you ask in My name, that will I do** [so] that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye ask anything in My name, I will do it."

Then in John 14:16 it says, **"I will pray [to] the Father, and He shall give [to] you another** Comforter."

Jesus never said for us to pray to Him. It is the Father who decides all things. It is the Father who gives gifts to mankind. What part does Jesus have in it?

We pray to our heavenly Father and not to anybody else. We ask our petitions in Jesus' name. The Father then will grant or deny our prayer and then tells Jesus the request is granted. Then, Jesus will do it and give it to us by His mighty power. He cannot [or will not] do it unless He hears it from His Father.

Yes, it is Jesus' power and authority by which it is done, but only as the Father has determined it. When Jesus performs it, that gives glory to His Father. In verse 13 it says, **"that the Father may be glorified in [and through] the Son."**

So, the next time you go to God to ask something, make sure you are addressing it to your heavenly Father, not to Jesus or any other person. Ask your petition in the name of Jesus, (i.e., I come to you Father, in the name of Jesus) then the Father is glorified by Jesus when you get your answer.

This is the scriptural way to bring any petition before the Father's throne. If we pray "wrong," will we get our petition? That is not for me to say. The Father will determine that matter.

Jesus told us in John 5:19 that He only says or does what He hears from the Father. He does not act independently. Everything he does and what we pray for comes from the Father.