

Why Doesn't God Answer My Prayers?

Can I Ask That In Church?

April 13, 2025

Discussion Questions:

1. Go around the room and share something you've prayed for (as you're comfortable). Next, take turns sharing a prayer you've prayed where at the time you questioned if God has heard it. Maybe it's something you're praying for now, and maybe it's something you prayed about a while ago. (This is a trust-building moment!)
2. Brother Mike talked about God answering our prayers in different ways. Read James 4:3 aloud. Have you ever wanted something that, in hindsight, wouldn't have been good for you? How does this reflection affect the way you view God "denying" prayer requests?
3. Read John 11:5-6. Jesus delayed his visit to a sick Lazarus, and when He does arrive, Lazarus has passed away. Now, read John 11:40-44. Why would God intentionally delay answering our prayers? What does this say to you about His character?
4. In 2 Corinthians, Paul writes about some of his own struggles. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 and share what you think of Paul "taking pleasure in (his own) weakness." What are some ways God may be using challenges in your life to grow your character or faith?
5. Ephesians 6:18 encourages persistent prayer. What are some ways to stay spiritually alert and persistent when it feels like your prayers aren't being answered?
6. Prayer improves your relationship with God! In Luke 11:10-13, God is compared to a good parent. Is this a metaphor familiar or foreign to you? How does this image of God as a loving Father affect your trust and communication with Him?
7. The message shared mentioned that the most important prayer we can ever pray is the prayer of salvation. Why might it be significant to begin a relationship with God through a simple, honest prayer?

Additional Verses for Discussion:

- Jeremiah 33:3
- Hebrews 4:16