

Why Doesn't God Answer My Prayers?

Can I Ask That In Church – Part 3

April 13, 2025

“¹⁴And we are confident that He hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases Him. ¹⁵And since we know He hears us when we make our requests, we also know that He will give us what we ask for.” 1 John 5:14-15 (NLT)

Ways That God Answers Prayers:

1. Occasionally God will **deny** our request.

“And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.” James 4:3 (NLT)

2. Sometimes God will **delay** for a better way.

“⁵So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, ⁶He stayed where He was for the next two days.” John 11:5-6 (NLT)

3. Periodically God wants to **develop** us.

“If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.” Psalm 66:18 (NLT)

“⁷... So to keep me from becoming proud, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from Satan to torment me and keep me from becoming proud. ⁸Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. ⁹Each time He said, ‘My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.’ So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. ¹⁰That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (NLT)

4. At the right time God will **direct** us to our request.

“Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers ... ” Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

Prayer Principles:

- Prayer **improves** your **relationship** with God.

“¹⁰For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? ¹²Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! ¹³So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.” Luke 11:10-13 (NLT)

- Most important prayer that you can ever pray and **guaranteed** will be answered immediately: **salvation prayer**