

Why Doesn't God Answer Some Prayers?

Can I Ask That In Church? - Part 2

May 14, 2023

“Why didn't God answer mine?”

Why doesn't God answer some prayers?

What do we do when God goes “off-script”?

“When the people saw that *Moses delayed* in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said to him, “Come, make gods for us who will go before us because *this Moses*, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt — *we don't know what has happened to him!*” Exodus 32:1 (CSB)

Timing

Control

Certainty

“¹⁷If the God we serve exists, then He can rescue us from the furnace of blazing fire, and He can rescue us from the power of you, the king. ¹⁸But *even if He does not rescue us*, we want you as king to know that we will not serve your gods or worship the gold statue you set up.” Daniel 3:17-18 (CSB)

“²Now when John heard *in prison* what the Christ was doing, he sent a message through his disciples ³and asked him, “*Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?*” Matthew 11:2-3 (CSB)

“and blessed is the one who isn't offended by me.” Matthew 11:6 (CSB)

Your life doesn't usually play out in the way you would write your own story.

Sometimes God delays, sometimes God denies, but God always delivers according to what He has determined as best.

Five Ways to Evaluate your Prayers:

#1 - Motive

“²You do not have because you do not ask. ³You ask and don't receive because you ask with *wrong motives*, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.” James 4:2-3 (CSB)

“We expect God to cosign on all our life plans and timelines.” - Albert Tate

#2 - Measure

Whether or not God diverts your struggle does not determine whether or not He is a good God.

#3 - Meaningful

Do you pray to get results or to GET God?

#4 - Mindful

#5 - Moral

“The Lord grants favor and honor; He does not withhold the good from those who live with integrity.” Psalms 84:11 (CSB)

God isn't going to bless unholy requests.

Four Actions to Consider:

#1 - Let go of our idols of **control** and **certainty**.

#2 - Don't run **from**, run **to**.

God would rather you yell and scream at Him than abandon your relationship with Him in silence.

#3 - Stop seeing prayer as an **instruction manual** to God and embrace prayer as a means to **intimacy with Him**.

#4- Trust God's timing even when it **conflicts** with your agenda.