



“If God Is Listening Why Doesn't He Answer My Prayer?”

"I cry to you, O God, but you don't answer. I stand before you, but you don't even look." (Job 30:20)

All text New Living Trans. unless marked (NIV) New International Version

1. God Doesn't Use Prayer To...

▶ **To make my life easy or _____**

*"when you ask, you don't get it because...you want **only what will give you pleasure**" (James 4:3)*

"Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows." (John 16:33)

▶ **To _____ people for me**

*"But the Pharisees and experts in religious law **rejected God's plan** for them" (Luke 7:30)*

*"because of their unbelief, **(Jesus) couldn't do** any mighty miracles among them" (Mark 6:5)*

▶ **To _____ me**

"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." (Matt. 7:11)

"even if you had faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing would be impossible" (Matt. 17:20)

2. God Does Use Prayer To Align My Life To _____

*"we can be confident that **he will listen** to us whenever we ask him for anything **in line with his will.**" (1 John 5:14)*

*"Father, if you are willing, please... **But I want your will, not mine.**" (Luke 22:42)*

3. When God Says "No" He Has A Better _____

*"These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had **planned something better** for us so that only together with us*

would they be made perfect." (Heb. 11:39,40 NIV)

*"For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. 'They are **plans for good** and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.'" (Jer. 29:11)*

4. When God Says "Wait" He Has A Better _____

*"there is a **proper time** and procedure for every matter" (Eccl. 8:6 NIV)*

*"So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and **at the right time** he will lift you up in honor." (1 Peter 5:6)*

WHEN GOD'S ANSWER DISAPPOINTS BELIEVE...

1. God Loves Me Too Much To Deny Any Good Grant Any _____

Request Or

"No good thing will the LORD withhold from those who do what is right." (Psalm 84:11)

2. Behind Every Problem Is A _____ I May Not See

*"we know that God causes **everything to work together for the good** of those who love God and are called **according to his purpose** for them." (Romans 8:28)*

3. God Offers Me His Power And His _____

"My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." (2 Cor. 12:9)

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need... Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:6,7)

4. Christ Himself Is _____

*"Christ Jesus...who was raised to life is at the right hand of God and is also **interceding for us**" (Rom 8:34 NIV) "Jesus lives forever to **plead with God on their behalf**" (Heb 7:25)*

5. God Offers Himself As _____

*"I wait quietly before God, for **my hope is in him.**" (Psalm 62:5)*

*"O God...I have seen you in your sanctuary and gazed upon your power and glory. **Your unfailing love is better to me than life itself... I will honor you...lifting up my hands to you in prayer... You satisfy me** more than the richest of foods... I lie awake **thinking of you, meditating on you... I sing for joy** in the **shadow of your protecting wings.**" (Psalm 63:2-7)*