



Nagging Questions wk3: Why didn't God answer my prayer?

Introduction: Prayer is powerful, but if we are honest, it can also be confusing. We sometimes see what we believe to be an obvious answer to prayer and rejoice; then we pray just as fervently, and the prayer goes seemingly unanswered. Why does God sometimes not answer our prayers?

Discussion Questions

1. Do you remember a time where God answered your prayer? How did it feel? Have you had the opposite experience as well? Did you struggle with that?
2. Read **John 14:13-14** Some people see this statement of Jesus as a "blank check." What part of the passage does that ignore? What is Jesus offering?
3. Read **Luke 18:1** Why does God want us to pray and not give up when He can answer the first time?
4. Read **Mark 11:25** and **1 Peter 3:7** How can our relationships with others affect the effectiveness of our prayers?
5. Read **2 Corinthians 12:9** One of the options when we pray is that God says no, because he has another plan—that's what Paul hears here. How do you or can you respond when God has a plan different from your prayers?
6. What role does faith have in God answering prayer? How can our response to that question be a little dangerous?
7. It was said that prayer is not a button to be pushed but a relationship to be pursued. How is prayer a relationship?

Shaping Your Mind – *So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Luke 11:9*

Moving Forward – *Prayer is not a button to be pushed but a relationship to be pursued.*