

PRAY FIRST

SERMON SERIES

WEEK 2 | WHY DIDN'T GOD ANSWER MY PRAYER?

HOW SHOULD WE PRAY?

Your Relationships

*Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. **Mark 11:24-25***

*Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. **1 Peter 3:7***

Your Motives

*When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives... **James 4:3***

*All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the LORD. **Proverbs 16:2***

Your Lifestyle

*...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. **James 5:16***

*The LORD is far from the wicked but he hears the prayer of the righteous. **Proverbs 15:29***

Your Faith

*But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord... **James 1:6-7***

*Then He touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you"; and their sight was restored. **Matthew 9:29-30***

God's Will

*This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us - whatever we ask - we know that we have what we asked of him. **1 John 5:14-15***

*"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." **Luke 22:42-43***

WHAT MATTERS MOST?

You must have an honest relationship with God through Christ.

*We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. **John 9:31***

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you prayed for something recently and received an answer to that prayer?
2. How confident are you that you know the voice of God and understand when He is speaking to you?
3. Why do you think that God answers some prayers and doesn't answer other prayers?