

REVIEW: Prayers that get answered..... according to God's will

1. Learn to pray for what God wants for us (*Not necessarily what we want for ourselves*)

Exodus 33:13 (NLT)

¹³If it is true that you look favorably on me, **let me know your ways so I may understand you more fully and continue to enjoy your favor.** And remember that this nation is your very own people.”

2. **Make your prayers about bringing honor and glory to God**

Daniel 9:18 - 19 (NLT) ¹⁸“O my God, lean down and listen to me. Open your eyes and see our despair. See how your city—the city that bears your name—lies in ruins. **We make this plea, not because we deserve help, but because of your mercy.**

¹⁹“**O Lord, hear. O Lord, forgive. O Lord, listen and act! For your own sake,** do not delay, O my God, for your people and your city bear your name.”

3. **How does God benefit from our request or what's in it for Him.**

1 Samuel 1:11 (NLT) ¹¹And she made this vow: “O LORD of Heaven's Armies, if you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, **then I will give him back to you. He will be yours for his entire lifetime, and as a sign that he has been dedicated to the LORD,** his hair will never be cut.”

4. **Learn to pray the Word in our prayers.**

Praying the Word means reading (or reciting) Scripture in a spirit of prayer and letting the meaning of the verses become our prayer and inspire our thoughts.

1 John 5:14 - 15 (NASB) ¹⁴This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

John 15:7 (NASB) ⁷“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

- For example, the prayer of Acts 4:24–30 quotes Psalm 2.
- Old Testament prayers like Ezra's prayer in Nehemiah 9:6–37 are rehearsals of biblical history/biblical texts.

MONDAY MORNING MOMENT: Action Step

Worry looks around

Fear looks back

Faith looks up: so **Look to Jesus**

Hebrews 12:2 (NLT) ²We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

When prayer seems to be ignored or denied!

Genesis 8:21 (KJV) ²¹And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart *is* evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

Romans 3:12 (KJV) ¹²They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Why bad things happen to so-called good people?

John 9:2 - 3 (NLT) ²"Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" ³"It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him.

Luke 13:1 - 4 (NLT) ¹About this time Jesus was informed that Pilate had murdered some people from Galilee as they were offering sacrifices at the Temple.

²"Do you think those Galileans were worse sinners than all the other people from Galilee?" Jesus asked. "Is that why they suffered?" ³Not at all! And you will perish, too, unless you repent of your sins and turn to God.

⁴And what about the eighteen people who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them? Were they the worst sinners in Jerusalem?

Our response should be like this:

Job 1:20 - 22 (NASB) ²⁰Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head, and he fell to the ground and worshiped.

²¹He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked I shall return there. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD."²²Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame God.

Habakkuk 3:17 - 19 (NLT) ¹⁷ Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty,¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the LORD! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!¹⁹ The Sovereign LORD is my strength! He makes me as surefooted as a deer, able to tread upon the heights.