

# HOW TO HEAR FROM **GOD**

THROUGH SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

# QUESTIONS WE WILL ANSWER

A) WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER  
SOME OF OUR PRAYERS AND  
WHY CAN'T WE HEAR FROM  
HIM?

B) WHAT SHOULD OUR  
RESPONSE BE WHEN HE  
DOESN'T ANSWER OUR  
PRAYERS & WHEN WE CAN'T  
HEAR FROM GOD?



# BIG IDEA

1) TO HEAR MORE CLEARLY,  
WE MUST FIRST BE WILLING  
TO LOOK IN THE MIRROR.

2) THE ABSENCE OF AN  
ANSWERED PRAYER IS NOT  
THE ABSENCE OF GOD'S  
CARE.

3) MOMENTS OF TESTING ARE  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH.

A) WHY DOESN'T GOD  
ANSWER SOME OF  
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FROM HIM?

## A) WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER SOME OF OUR PRAYERS AND WHY CAN'T WE HEAR FROM HIM?

### 1) UNREPENTANT SIN

#### **Isaiah 59:2:**

“But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.”

#### **Psalms 66:18:**

“If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.”

**Harboring sin in our hearts can prevent God from answering our prayers.**



**A) WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER SOME OF OUR PRAYERS AND WHY CAN'T WE HEAR FROM HIM?**

## **2) LACK OF OBEDIENCE**

### **Proverbs 28:9**

“If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable.”

**Disobedience creates distance between us and God.**

**A) WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER SOME OF OUR PRAYERS AND WHY CAN'T WE HEAR FROM HIM?**

## **3) LACK OF FAITH**

### **James 1:6-7**

“But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.”



**A) WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER SOME OF OUR PRAYERS AND WHY CAN'T WE HEAR FROM HIM?**

## **4) WRONG MOTIVES**

### **James 4:3**

“When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.”

**Prayers driven by selfish or impure motives aren't prayers lined up with God's will & will go unanswered.**



**A) WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER SOME OF OUR PRAYERS AND WHY CAN'T WE HEAR FROM HIM?**

## **5) WRONG TIMING**

### **Ecclesiastes 3:11**

“He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.”

**A) WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER SOME OF OUR PRAYERS AND WHY CAN'T WE HEAR FROM HIM?**

## **6) GOD'S PLAN IS BETTER THAN OURS**

### **Isaiah 55:8-9**

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”



B) WHAT SHOULD OUR  
RESPONSE BE WHEN  
GOD DOESN'T ANSWER  
OUR PRAYERS?

WHAT IS GOD TRYING  
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**B) WHAT SHOULD OUR RESPONSE BE WHEN GOD DOESN'T ANSWER OUR PRAYERS?**

**WHAT IS GOD TRYING TO TEACH US?**

# **1) GOD WANTS US TO RELY ON HIM & GROW.**

Isaiah 40:31

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

2 Corinthians 12:8-9:

“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’”



B) WHAT SHOULD OUR RESPONSE BE WHEN GOD DOESN'T ANSWER OUR PRAYERS?

WHAT IS GOD TRYING TO TEACH US?

## 2) GOD WANTS OUR FAITH TO BE STRENGTHENED

AND OUR FAITH IS STRENGTHENED & TESTED WHEN HE DOESN'T ANSWER OUR PRAYERS

During times of testing, we often seek God's voice more earnestly. This process teaches us to **rely** on Him, **listen** for His guidance, and **trust** His promises.

## **B) WHAT SHOULD OUR RESPONSE BE WHEN GOD DOESN'T ANSWER OUR PRAYERS?**

### **WHAT IS GOD TRYING TO TEACH US?**

Peter 1:7

“These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold—may result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed”

**Testing refines our faith, faith opens our hearts to hear God, and hearing God provides the strength and clarity needed to endure testing. Together, they create a cycle of growth, drawing us closer to God and deepening our trust in His plan.**



## **INTRO QUESTIONS**

HAS ANYTHING STOOD OUT TO YOU PERSONALLY OR CHALLENGED YOU FROM OUR SERMON SERIES “HOW TO HEAR FROM GOD” ?

WHAT DOES PRAYER MEAN TO YOU, AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

## **QUESTIONS ABOUT UNANSWERED PRAYERS**

HAVE YOU EVER FELT LIKE GOD DIDN'T ANSWER YOUR PRAYER? HOW DID THAT MAKE YOU FEEL?

WHY DO YOU THINK GOD SOMETIMES SAYS “NO” OR “WAIT” TO OUR PRAYERS?

CAN UNANSWERED PRAYERS STILL HAVE A PURPOSE IN OUR LIVES? IF SO, WHAT MIGHT THAT PURPOSE BE?

HOW CAN WE TRUST GOD WHEN WE DON'T GET THE ANSWERS WE'RE HOPING FOR?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH US ABOUT WAITING ON GOD IN PRAYER?

## **QUESTIONS ABOUT TESTING THROUGH PRAYER**

WHY DO YOU THINK GOD ALLOWS OUR FAITH  
TO BE TESTED THROUGH CHALLENGES?

HOW CAN PRAYER HELP US WHEN WE'RE  
GOING THROUGH TRIALS OR HARD TIMES?

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT MEANS TO TRUST  
GOD EVEN WHEN THINGS DON'T MAKE SENSE?

### **PERSONAL**

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO STRENGTHEN YOUR  
PRAYER LIFE?

HOW CAN YOU REMIND YOURSELF TO KEEP  
TRUSTING GOD WHEN PRAYERS SEEM  
UNANSWERED?

WHAT'S ONE SITUATION IN YOUR LIFE WHERE  
YOU CAN PRAY FOR GOD'S GUIDANCE AND  
TRUST HIS TIMING?