

Black Ice: Unanswered Prayer

Caleb Gait

Questions: What is your most dramatic experience getting stuck with a vehicle in the snow? When have you asked the question “God where are you?” in response to unanswered prayer? What feelings did you experience as a result?

Read Matthew 26:36-39; Matthew 27:46

Christian prayer has long held the simple belief that God can be petitioned to intervene and cause changes to happen our world.

Question: How is prayer personal?

Because prayer is personal, there's a reason we can simply call it "talking to God."

Read Romans 8:15-16; Galatians 4:6

Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?
Corrie Ten Boom

Trouble texts in reference to prayer.

Read: John 14:13-14; Luke 11:5-13; Luke 18:1-8

Question: How does seeing that the focus is on God’s will instead of our will effect your view on prayer from these passages?

When God’s answer is “no”:

- God's idea of good might be different than yours.
- God is waiting for you to listen to Him
- You aren't asking in faith (different than enough faith)
- You're praying with the wrong motives

Questions: Which one of these possibilities is most helpful? Which do you struggle with the most?

**Prayer is not a button to be pushed,
but a relationship to be pursued.**

When prayer seems unanswered:

- Remember the ones He has answered.
Read Romans 5:1-2
- Recognize the power of problems.
Read Romans 5:3-4
- Return to the relationship
Read Romans 5:5-6

**In the process of unanswered prayers,
God is often more interested in changing our hearts
than our circumstances.**

Max Lucado

- Pray with expectation, believing God can.
- Pray with humility, accepting God might not.
- Pray in trust, knowing that God always has His best in mind for you. Not your best in mind for Him to do.

Question: Which of these three do you need to pursue?