

**40 DAYS OF PRAYER PART IV**  
**“WHAT TO DO WHEN PRAYERS AREN’T ANSWERED”**  
**OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 1, 2020**

**INTRODUCTION**

- Last week we talked about healing prayer and how you get positioned to pray using II Chronicles 7:14.
- This week we are going to deal with God not answering prayer. How do we deal with that?

**I. I THOUGHT THE BIBLE PROMISED**

- Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV), “Call to me and I will answer you...”
- John 16:23-24, 14:13, “...if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you...ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full. Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do...”
- Why are there times we have all prayed and not received what we prayed for?
- He answers four ways: Not yet wait, In a while, In my way, No way.
- That can be tough to deal with for all of us.
- Clearly there are some things we won’t get until we get to heaven.

**II. THREE REASONS GOD SAYS NO**

- When you don’t know why, don’t act like you do.
- Even Jesus asked why? On the cross He asked, “Why have you forsaken me?” He didn’t get an answer.

1<sup>st</sup> Reason God says No - He has a better and bigger perspective.

- He can see what we can’t see. My perspective is limited to me.

- He sees the future - Hebrews 4:13
- Proverbs 2:8, “(God) guards the course of the just and protects the way of His faithful ones.”

2<sup>nd</sup> God says No - When He has a better plan.

- God says, “I intend to answer your prayer, but not like you think.”
- Isaiah 55:8-9, “This plan of Mine is not what you would work out...”
- He wants to grow your character.

3<sup>rd</sup> God says No - When He has a greater purpose.

- God will never let my prayers over take my destiny.
- Psalm 57:2, “I cry out to God Most High, who fulfills His purpose for me.”
- II Corinthians 4:17-18, “These present troubles... will produce in us an immeasurably great glory... that will last forever!...but the joys to come will last forever.”

**CLOSE**

1<sup>st</sup> - There are things here in this life you will never understand this side of heaven.

2<sup>nd</sup> - There are some things that are going to happen in your life that are never going to change.

3<sup>rd</sup> - God is going to allow you to suffer sometimes when you beg to be free so you can help others.

- God takes our pain and uses it to bring life to others.
- That can only happen if you trust in the storm.
- Psalm 25:10, “All the ways of the Lord are loving...”
- Romans 8:28, “In everything God works for the good of those who love Him.”
- Expect God to give His grace to handle His answer.
- God has all of eternity to fulfill His promises.