



## **WHY, GOD? Why Aren't My Prayers Being Answered?**

February 18, 2024 | Pastor Kirk Walters  
Mount Paran North

<sup>7</sup>“Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup>For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>9</sup>“You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? <sup>10</sup>Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! <sup>11</sup>So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.” **Matthew 7:7-11 NLT**

### **When God says No—the Request is wrong.**

Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.

**Matthew 6:9 NLT**

You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father.

**John 14:13 NLT**

### **When God says Slow—the Timing is wrong.**

<sup>8</sup>“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the LORD. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. <sup>9</sup>For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.”

**Isaiah 55:8-9 NLT**

### **When God says Grow–You aren't ready.**

<sup>2</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. <sup>3</sup> For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. <sup>4</sup> So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. <sup>5</sup> If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. <sup>6</sup> But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup> Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

**James 1:2-8 NLT**

### **When God says Yes–All things are ready.**

So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.

**Matthew 7:11 NLT**