

**IS ANYBODY LISTENING?**

A Bible Study on Prayer Answers

"God never answers my prayers." "I can't bother Him with my silly requests – I will just have to solve my own problems." "God helps those who help themselves." "I don't think God cares." Have you heard some of these statements before? Have you said or thought them?

Many times our prayers seem to go unanswered and these thoughts occur. We may feel like saying, "Is anybody listening? Did the line go dead? Am I on hold?" We may tend to think we are not doing things right, or that we do not have the right formula for saying prayers that get answered. Or maybe we are not worthy. Or maybe we are not trying hard enough. Or maybe our faith is just too weak.

God has the answers for us in His Word. Take a look at some passages that speak about prayer. Beside each Bible reference, write what you learned about prayer and prayer answers.

(Leader: You might want to divide the women into groups of 3-4 and have them look up the Bible passages and write their answers. After the large group comes together again, the small groups can share their answers.)

Judges 6:36-40 _____

Psalms 50:15 _____

Isaiah 65:24 _____

Matthew 7:7, 8 _____

Matthew 21: 21, 22 _____

Mark 11:25 _____

John 15:7 _____

John 16:23, 24 _____

2 Corinthians 12:8, 9 _____

Philippians 4:6 _____

James 1:5, 6 _____

James 4: 2c, 3 _____

1 Peter 3:12 _____

1 John 3: 21, 23 _____

1 John 5: 14, 15 _____

From the above passages, what are the prerequisites to answered prayer? _____

Give some examples of modern day answers to prayer – from what you have read, from the experiences of people you know or from your own life.

One way to appreciate that God answers more prayers than we are often aware of is to keep a prayer diary. Use a notebook or steno pad or the computer (though you may want to keep your requests secret). Draw four columns down the page. The first column is for the date you first prayed for something, the second column briefly states the prayer request, the third column is for the date the prayer was answered, and the fourth column states how the prayer was answered. The diary can also be used to look back and then give praise to God for His answers.

“Is anybody listening?” Yes, He is. And He is waiting right now to hear from us – our petitions, our praises, our confessions, our thanksgivings. What a privilege it is for us to be able to come to Him as our living Father and know that He is willing to listen to us and to help in His own time and way!

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