

Cultivate #18

Cultivating A Trusting Heart: What's The Deal With Unanswered Prayers?

Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well... The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. James 5:13-18 (NLT)

I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it! John 14:12-14 (NLT)

Four Categories Of Unanswered Prayer:

1. -----.

- * Peter said to Jesus, "Teacher, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." Peter did not know what to say, because he and the others were so frightened. Mark 9:5-6 (NLT)
- * When James and John saw this, they said to Jesus, "Lord, should we call down fire from heaven to burn them up. Luke 9:54 (NLT)
- * She said, "Promise that one of my sons will sit at your right side and the other will sit at your left side in your kingdom." But Jesus said, "You don't understand what you are asking." Matthew 20:21-22 (NCV)

2. -----.

- * These things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed. Habakuk 2:3 (NLT)

3. -----

*** Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who wait for the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.**
Isaiah 40:30-31 (NLT)

4. -----

*** He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."** Matthew 26:39 (NLT)

*** Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.**
Matthew 6:5-6 (MES)

Cultivate Step #18:

Spend some time thinking about the unanswered prayers of your life.
How can you let go of what you perceive to be God's "failing"??

Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.
Matthew 6:5-6 (MES)