

“HOW SHOULD YOU RECONCILE UNANSWERED PRAYER?”

I. IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS

II. COMING TO GRIPS WITH UNANSWERED PRAYER

A. From GOD’S Perspective

1. The person is _____, and so he/she is not on speaking terms with God. (Heb. 4:14-16)
2. You have _____ been _____ about the issue in the first place. (James 4:2)
3. You have prayed _____ and not with God’s _____ in mind. (James 4:3)
4. You are walking in the _____, and you need to _____ your sins to the Lord. (Ps. 66:18; Prov. 28:13; 1 John 1: 6-9)
5. There is a lack of _____ in the home. (1 Peter 3:7)
6. There is a lack of _____ in your life. (1 John 3:22)
7. There is a lack of _____ when you pray. (James 1:5-7)

B. From MAN’S Perspective

1. *When believers do not receive an answer to their prayers it may be due to the fact that...*
 - a. they have prayed without any sense of _____ or _____ (1 Sam. 1:12-16; Rom. 9:1-5)
 - b. they have prayed with the idea that prayer is all that is necessary, and they have confused _____ with _____ (James 5:14; 1 Thess. 1:2-3; 2: 9-12)

- c. they have prayed and falsely _____ that because God has not answered, He must not have heard their earlier prayer, and as a result they fail to _____ in the matter (Psalm 4:1; Gen. 30:22; Isa. 62:6-7))
- d. they have prayed and they fail to _____ what God has said in His Word as being part of the conversation, and so they ask for _____ things

C. The REALITY of the situation regarding unanswered prayer

1. *God may not answer a petition immediately because...*

- a. in His perfect timing the answer would be _____ delivered at a _____ date (Psalm 31:15)
- b. He has chosen to teach the “prayer warrior” a particular _____ that he/she could not _____ any other way (Job 7:11; 42:1-6)
- c. it is ultimately His goal to build this person’s _____ up, thus the answer is postponed in order for this to happen (Judges 6:36-40; Psalm. 27:14; Micah 7:7)
- d. He has a completely different _____ and a different _____ for you to go (1 Peter 3:15-17; 4:1-3)
- e. He does not over ride human volition, and a prideful, _____ is standing in the way (1 Tim. 2:3-4; John 3:36; Acts 7:51)

* How can you apply these truths in your own prayer life?