

Small Group Discussion Guide

Why Didn't God Answer My Prayer?

Opening (5 minutes)

Icebreaker: Share a time when you really wanted something to happen—and it didn't.

Transition: Many of us have asked: "Why didn't God answer my prayer?" Tonight we're going to talk honestly about that.

Key Scripture

- John 14:13–14
- Mark 11:24–25
- James 4:3
- Mark 9:23
- 1 John 5:14–15
- Daniel 3:17–18

1. Unanswered Prayer is Personal

Think about one situation where you prayed and didn't see the answer you hoped for.

- How did that experience affect your faith?
- What emotions did it bring up?

2. Broken Relationships

Read: Mark 11:24–25

- Why does God care about our relationships?
- Is there a relationship that needs healing?

- How could conflict affect your connection with God?

3. Wrong Motives

Read: James 4:3

- Why is it hard to recognize our motives?
- Have you realized a prayer was self-centered?
- What does God-centered prayer look like?

4. Lack of Faith

Read: Mark 9:23; James 1:6–7

- Difference between real faith and just saying words?
- Why is prayer often a last resort?
- How can we grow in trust?

5. God Has Something Different

Read: 1 John 5:14–15

- Why is trusting God's will hard?
- Have you seen a "no" turn into something good?
- What does it mean God is still good?

6. Faith That Endures

Read: Daniel 3:17–18

- What stands out about "even if He does not"?
- What would that kind of faith look like in your life?
- How do we keep believing?

Closing Prayer

- Healing from disappointment
- Trust in God's goodness
- Surrender to His will
- Faith to believe even if He doesn't answer how we expect