


## What Hinders My Prayers from Being Answered?

*1 John 3:22-24; 5:14-15*

Consider these clear statements from God's Word as to why the prayers of His children may go unanswered:


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- X1) Refusal to deal with sin in my life:** "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Psalm 66:18). My heart must be right for my prayer life to be right.
- X2) Failure to pray:** "Ask, and it shall be given you" (Matt. 7:7). "Ye have not, because ye ask not" (James 4:2).
- X3) Praying based on a sinful desire or a wrong motive:** "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts" (James 4:3). Any request must be **subject to the glory of God—nothing less and nothing else.**
- X4) Failure to ask according to God's will:** "And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us" (1 John 5:14). What I want and long for may not be what God wants.
- X5) Disobedience to God's commands and failure to please Him:** "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight" (1 John 3:22).
- X6) Failure to dwell in Christ experientially by abiding in the Vine who is the Source of our life:** "If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).
- X7) Failure to properly fulfill my role in the home in light of God's order and clear instructions:** "Ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered" (1 Pet. 3:7).

~George Zeller: [www.middletonbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletonbiblechurch.org)

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