

get your questions on.

ASK THE PASTOR

Questions to ask when it seems like your prayers are going unanswered.

1. Am I asking with wrong motives?

James 4:3 says, "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."

2. Have I confessed my sins to God?

Isaiah 59:1-2 says, "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

3. Have I made anything more important than God?

In Isaiah 14:3b God tells Ezekiel that the people had "set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them?"

4. Am I digging into God's Word?

Jesus said in John 15:7, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

The Bible says that God doesn't hear us when there is sin in our hearts, but I read in my devotional the other day that when God sees us, He sees Jesus instead of our sin, so how do they both work?

.....When God sees us, He sees Jesus instead of our sin.

2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

Positional Sanctification - My position before God the judge is "righteous!"

How do they both work?: In His role as Eternal Judge, God only sees the righteousness of His Son.

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Practical/ Progressive Sanctification - Practically, we sin. We need to progressively become more like Jesus Christ.

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How do they both work?: In His role as Holy God, He cannot have fellowship with unconfessed sin.

God Wants Fellowship With Us!

Isaiah 65:2 I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts;

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

Conclusion: As Christians, we need to put God first in our lives to have an effective prayer life. If you're doing that, God does hear your prayers, and he answers them.



Questions?

Application: Let's Apply This Together