

## Answered Prayer

“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him“, 1 John 5:14.

Let me just quote Max Lucado from his book ‘And the Angels Were Silent’.

He and his four-year-old daughter went out to investigate their new neighbourhood.

They walked down streets they had never seen before. The houses were bigger. The kids looked older.

Wondering what thoughts his daughter might be having, he asked if she were okay?

Yes. She replied!

Do you know how to get home from here, he asked?

No. She said, I don’t have to, you already know the way.

If I were to ask a known, practising Christian, “Does God answer prayer?”, I would get an answer of “Yes”.

If I asked “Does God answer all prayer?”, I would get an answer of “No”.

Both are true and valid answers.

A devout and dedicated Christian, somewhere in the world, wanted to have a holiday trip of a lifetime.

They had seen God working through them. Healing the sick. Witnessed the act of redemption. Seen the dead raised.

They have ministered to the widow. They had bandaged broken hearts and ministered to those bruised by life

They earnestly sought God, and asked that he will grant them an around the universe trip in a space craft. They wanted to see the parts of His Creation that are not possible to be seen from the earth.

No ticket is delivered in the mail. No instructions are received on where to board the space craft.

Friends, forget the fact that we do not have space craft tours of the heavens. If God wanted them to have such a holiday as that, HE WOULD HAVE CREATED IT FOR THEM.

There are many reasons for God saying “No”.

Technically, YOU are on this planet to fulfill God’s Will. You are here to offer the salvation through the Name of Jesus. You are here to teach the path that needs to be walked after salvation is granted to the sinner.

When the Lord calls you home, you will have eternity to wander around and admire His Works.

There are also, in the Bible, a house rule for you to follow, “If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples“, John 15:7–8.

The Apostle John has summed it up, let your request glorify your Heavenly Father through your efforts and obedience.

Many people I know use prayer as they would a computer, type in a request, and the answer appears within seconds.

They pray a prayer, and expect the answer before they have risen from their knees!

Friends, as many of you know, I have a severe physical disability. At first, I prayed for a healing. Others prayed for me to be healed. The minute I accepted I was not the first and only one to minister with a physical disability.

In 1974, the doctors told me that in three months I would be in a wheelchair for the rest of my life.

When I changed the prayer from ‘heal’ to ‘help me’ minister through Your Strength each day, two things happened,

1. prayer was answered,
2. a miracle took place.

I am still walking and moving without the aid of a wheelchair.

“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ’s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong“, 2 Corinthians 12:9–10.