



# How to Get Your Prayers Answered

James 4:1-10

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*Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry, Everything to God in prayer.*

## Prayer that Goes Unanswered:

1. Unoffered Prayer (James 4:2b)
2. Selfish Prayer (James 4:3)
3. Worldly Pray-ers (James 4:4)

## Effective Prayer [adapted from Adrian Rogers]

1. Sensitivity to the Spirit (James 4:5)
2. Submission to the Father (James 4:6-7)
3. Standing Against the Devil (James 4:7b)

## How To Get Your Prayers Answered:

1. We should pray in faith (James 1:6, "But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.")
2. We should pray in the name of Jesus (John 16:24, "Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.")
3. We should pray according to the will of God (1 John 5:14, "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.")
4. We should pray only when we are in right relationship with others (1 Peter 3:7, "Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.")
5. We should pray with no unconfessed sin in our life (Psalm 66:18, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.")
6. We should pray with intensity (James 5:16, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.")
7. We should pray with persistence (Luke 18:1, "Then Jesus spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart." See also Matt. 7:7-11).

### Time to Pray (Author Unknown)

*I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day;  
I had so much to accomplish that I didn't have time to pray.*

*Problems just tumbled about me, and heavier came each task.  
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered. He answered, "You didn't ask."*

*I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, gray and bleak;  
I wondered why God didn't show me. He said, "But you didn't seek."*

*I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock.  
God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock."*

*I woke up early this morning, and paused before entering the day;  
I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray.*