

A Mute God

Small Group Questions (2/2/20)

20/20 Vision

Getting Started

If you could ask God for anything right now in your life and you were guaranteed to get exactly what you wanted, what would you ask him for?

Can you think of a time when you ask God for a very specific prayer request and he answered you in a way that was obviously from him?

Was there a time in your life when you felt like you were praying and praying and praying and getting no answers from God? Take a moment to talk about that time in your life.

Going Deeper

What would you say if you were sitting over coffee with a friend and she said this. "I've been praying faithfully for the same thing for over five years and I still haven't seen any change in the situation? How do I deal with this kind of disappointment? Does it reflect a lack of faith on my part? Some people tell me that God is sovereign and that I simply have to learn to accept His will. But if that's the case, why pray at all?"

There are many people in the Bible who prayed to God and it seemed as though he had gone silent. Take a moment to read the following verses and see if you can relate to any of these words

[Psalm 28:1-2](#)

[Psalm 35:19-23](#)

[Psalm 22:1-2](#)

Scripture and experience make it clear that there are occasions when our petitions seem to go unanswered. David's prayer for the life of his and Bathsheba's child ([2 Samuel 12:15-23](#)) is a case in point. Another example is Paul's repeated request for release from his so-called "thorn in the flesh" ([2 Corinthians 12:7-10](#)). What are some reasons why you think some prayers seem to go unanswered?

Read and Discuss the Following Quote on Prayer

In the final analysis, prayer is not about results. It's about relationship. God wants us to interact with Him, to wrestle with Him as Jacob wrestled with the angel ([Genesis 32:22-32](#)), in order that we might know Him, trust Him, and remember Him in all our ways. He wants us to become involved and play an active role in the mystery of His plan for the universe. But He doesn't promise to be our personal butler or wish-fulfiller.

