

# Book of James

## a blueprint for faith in today's world

## Why Is Prayer More Than Just Asking God for Things? - Finding Direction in Prayer

Read James 1-5

Listen to the Message 'Why Is Prayer More Than Just Asking God for Things? - Finding Direction in Prayer' (3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023) at [www.elim.family/media](http://www.elim.family/media)

In this message, Naomi, delves into the significance of prayer and its profound impact on the lives of Christians. The key message centres on the privilege of direct access to God through prayer, made possible by Jesus. Naomi emphasizes that prayer isn't just a routine or a series of requests; it's a transformative and personal conversation with God.

This message highlights the challenges and misconceptions people often encounter in prayer, such as praying with wrong motives or feeling discouraged when prayers seemingly go unanswered. It encourages the audience to understand that God's response can sometimes be a loving "no." Moreover, Naomi underscores the importance of patience and endurance in prayer, reminding listeners that waiting for God's timing and trusting His plan are vital aspects of a faithful prayer life. The sermon concludes with a call to action, emphasizing that prayer can lead to action when aligned with God's priorities and calling for an integration of faith and deeds.

Naomi encourages a profound shift in the way we approach prayer—viewing it as a transformative and personal conversation with God, aligning our hearts with His priorities, embracing patience and endurance, and being open to taking action as guided by their prayers.

### Questions for reflection:

1. How has this sermon changed your perspective on the purpose of prayer? Are you more inclined to view it as a transformative conversation with God rather than a routine?
2. Have you ever experienced unanswered prayers or felt discouraged in your prayer life? How can you apply the idea that God's answer can sometimes be "no" or "wait" to your own prayer experiences?
3. In what ways can you improve your patience and endurance in your prayer life? Are there areas where you've been impatient or tried to handle everything on your own without relying on God's timing and plan?

4. Are your prayers aligned with God's priorities, such as caring for the marginalized and avoiding favouritism? How can you become more intentional about praying for those who may be overlooked or in need?

5. After this sermon, do you feel a call to take action in response to your prayers? How can you integrate your faith with deeds and respond to the guidance you receive through prayer in a practical way?

If you have never accepted Jesus as your personal saviour and you would like to move from the margins to having a relationship with Him. Please speak to one of the pastors or leadership team, we would love to pray with you. Alternatively, go to [www.elim.family/ihavedecided](http://www.elim.family/ihavedecided) to find out more about giving your life to Jesus.