



How to Pray  
A Simple Guide for  
Normal People



## Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 2 July 2023 #5 Unanswered Prayer

### Bible passages

**From the Video - Mark 14:32-36, Daniel 3, Romans 5:3-5**

#### Summary points

- The Bible is honest about unanswered prayer – we are part of a faith that is about wrestling.
- Reasons for unanswered prayer - God's world, God's war, God's will.
- God's silence is not the same as his absence.

**From the Talk – Psalm 22.1-2; Matthew 27.45-46; Hebrews 4.14-16**

#### Summary Points

- We can trust Jesus because He understands us and loves us.
- He is forever faithful to us. He calls us to be faithful to Him.
- Learning to pray is about learning to trust faithfully in His faithfulness.

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### Discussion Questions

Q. What did you find most helpful or most challenging in the video and talk?

Q. How has the reality of unanswered prayer affected your relationship with God?

Q. Have you ever felt God's silence/absence in seasons of your life and faith? How did you respond?

In the video Pete Greig says, *"We are part of a faith that is all about wrestling"*.

Q. How do you think we can get better, as communities, at dealing with the realities and challenges of unanswered prayer?

Q. How can we encourage one another in "faithfulness" as well as "faith"?

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### Do it

*"Even when we don't understand, we can still trust"*.

Take time to stop, pause and recommit to trusting God together as a group.

You might like to play some worship music and spend time sitting and reflecting.

Read Hebrews 4.14-16 again and take time to pray prayers of Adoration and Thanksgiving

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### Toolshed Resources: Unanswered Prayer

These can be found at [prayercourse.org/toolshed](https://prayercourse.org/toolshed)

- The Prayer of Relinquishment
- How to Lament