

Tuesday 26th January 2021

T: What does Jesus teach
us about prayer?



What does Jesus teach us about prayer in this passage?

TASK ONE...

Matthew 7 :7-11

Ask, and It Will Be Given

⁷ "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!



Question time...

Do you think God always
answers our prayers?
Why/why not?



TASK

Create an Agony Aunt letter to talk about a time that God hasn't answered your prayers.

Use the next slide as an example of what to include within your letter.



No address – informal with name

Dear Agony Annie,

*I know this might sound like nothing compared to a lot of readers' problems **but I'm really depressed** because I have not received the iPhone that I prayed for. My family lives in the countryside and **I don't get to meet many people my age, therefore I feel very isolated and lonely**. With an iPhone, I'd be able to communicate with people and get out more, but my mum doesn't like them. **So what I am asking is, why hasn't my prayer been answered?***

Description of feelings

The problem

Jane

Finished informally

Question needing response



Reflection

Does God always answer our prayers?

What does the poem 'Footprints in the Sand' on the next slide show?



One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.
"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you
Never, ever, during your trials and testings.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you.