



Midweek Study

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Strategies for Prevailing Prayer

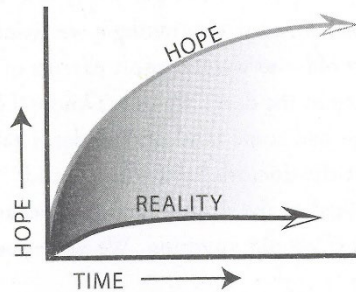


Persevering Through Unanswered Prayers

Joining God in His Story – Following God’s purpose and plan for your life

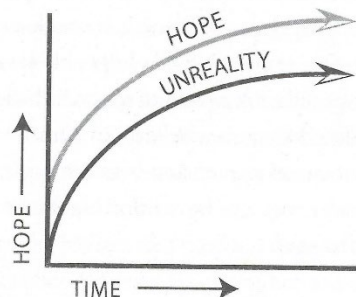
- *Luke 9:23 - Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.*
- *John 17:3 - “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*
- *Philippians 3:10 - that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death*

Four responses when our prayers are not yet answered*



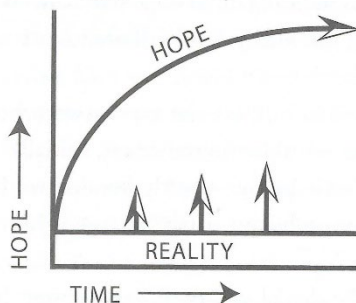
Walking in Faith in the Desert

Biblical example – Abraham’s faith – Romans 4:18-21



Denial of Reality

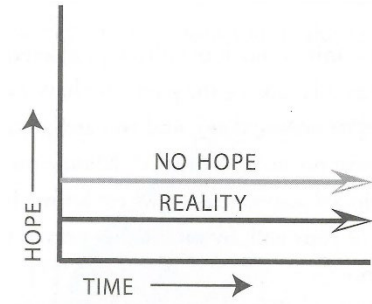
Biblical example – Kings of Israel and Judah who did not listen to the prophets’ warnings – 1 Kings 22:7-38



Determination to overcome

Biblical example – Sarah’s impatience in having a son Genesis 16:2

Despair without hope



Biblical example – Paul’s struggles and hardship
2 Corinthians 1:8-10

What is the desert?

- The desert is the time of waiting on the Lord when the promises of God and the prayers based on the character of God are not yet fulfilled in our lives.

Why does God allow us to go through the desert?

- Conform us to the image of Jesus – 1 Peter 1:6-7
- Draw us closer to Him and help us to know His character more deeply – Exodus 34:6-7
- Show us idols in our lives – golden calf – Exodus 32
- Use our response to the suffering to bring God glory – 2 Corinthians 4:7-11

How do we persevere in prayer through the desert?

- Find our hope in God – Psalms 130
- Cling to the promises and character of God – 2 Peter 1:2-4
- Praising and thanking God in our circumstances – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
- Praying for the “mana” that you need each day – Luke 11:3
- Discipline of lament - Express your emotions to God in a healthy way
 - Turn to God in prayer
 - Pour out your heart
 - Ask boldly
 - Choose to trust
- Trust God to be with you – Psalms 23, Isaiah 43:2

*Paul Miller, [A Praying Life](#), pages 163-168.