



Sermon Notes & Reflection Guide

Date: September 6, 2026

Title: “When God Doesn’t Answer the Way You Hoped”

Speaker: Pastor Bob Levins

Key Scripture: Matthew 6:5–13 — Prayer, the Lord’s Prayer, and “Give us this day our daily bread”
Matthew 6:8 — “Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him”
Matthew 6:28–33 — The lilies of the field and “Seek first the kingdom of God”
Mark 11:24 — Asking in prayer and believing you have received
Job 13:15 — “Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him”

Main Idea: Prayer is not primarily about getting God to give us what we want. It is about trusting Him, surrendering to His will, depending on Him for our needs, and allowing prayer to transform us.

Takeaways: Trust God even when the answer is different from what you hoped, “Thy will be done” is central to prayer, God already knows what you need, prayer should move us beyond our own needs toward worship and intercession, seek God’s Kingdom first, faith grows as we learn to trust God through both ordinary needs and difficult seasons.

Reflection: What prayer have you struggled to understand because the answer was not what you hoped for? What would it look like to genuinely pray, “Thy will be done”? How much of your prayer life is focused on your needs versus worship, gratitude, and praying for others? Who is God putting on your heart to pray for this week?

Prayer: *Father, help me trust You with what I need, even when I do not understand what You are doing. Teach me to seek Your will, pray for others, and become more like Christ through my time with You.*