





GODSTILL SPEAKSTODAY

ALWAYS

WK 02: Always Hearing

GOD



1 Chronicles 16:8 (NKJV) — "Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!"

Psalm 18:6 (NLT) — "But in my distress **I cried out to the LORD**; yes, I prayed to my God for help. He heard **me** from his sanctuary; my cry to him reached his ears." Jeremiah 33:3 (NKJV) — "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

Acts 2:21 (NLT) — "But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."



PRAYER is One of the Most DIFFICULT Christian Disciplines to Practice REGULARLY

2 Kings 18:5–6 (NLT) — "Hezekiah trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before or after his time. 6 He remained faithful to the LORD in everything, and he carefully obeyed all the commands the LORD had given Moses."

"After Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it, he went up to the LORD's Temple and spread it out before the LORD. 15 And Hezekiah prayed this prayer before the LORD: "O LORD, God of Israel, you are enthroned between the mighty cherubim! You alone are God of all the kingdoms of the earth. You alone created the heavens and the earth. 16 Bend down, O LORD, and listen! Open your eyes, O LORD, and see! Listen to Sennacherib's words of

2 Kings 19:14-20 (NLT)

defiance against the living God. 17 "It is true, LORD, that the kings of Assyria have destroyed all these nations. **18** And they have thrown the gods of these nations into the fire and burned them. But of course the Assyrians could destroy them! They were not gods at all—only idols of wood and stone shaped by human hands. 19 Now, O LORD our God, rescue us from his power; then all the kingdoms of the earth will know that you alone, O LORD, are God." 20 Then Isaiah son of

2 Kings 19:14-20 (NLT)

Amoz sent this message to Hezekiah: "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I have heard your prayer about King Sennacherib of Assyria."

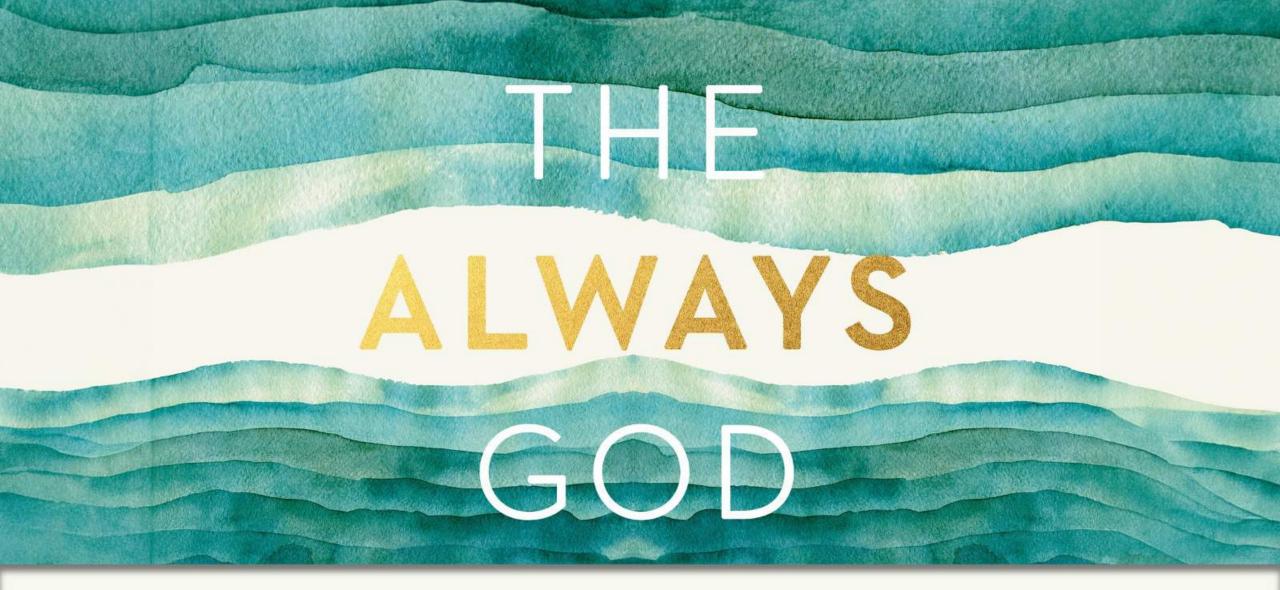
2 Kings 19:14-20 (NLT)

"About that time Hezekiah became deathly ill, and the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to visit him. He gave the king this message: "This is what the LORD says: Set your affairs in order, for you are going to die. You will not recover from this illness." 2 When Hezekiah heard this, he turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, 3 "Remember, O LORD, how I have always been faithful to you and have served you single-mindedly, always doing what pleases you." Then he broke down

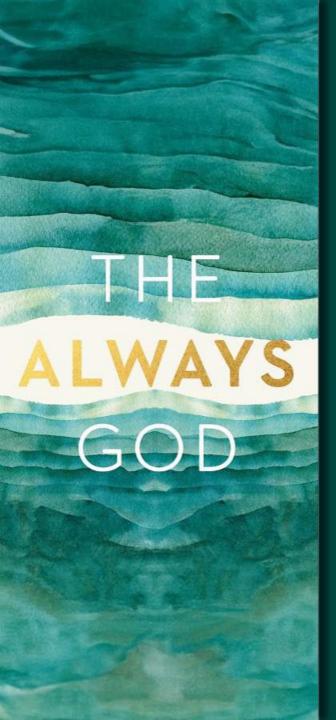
2 Kings 20:1-5 (NLT)

and wept bitterly. 4 But before Isaiah had left the middle courtyard, this message came to him from the LORD: 5 "Go back to Hezekiah, the leader of my people. Tell him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of your ancestor David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears. I will heal you, and three days from now you will get out of bed and go to the Temple of the Lord."

2 Kings 20:1-5 (NLT)

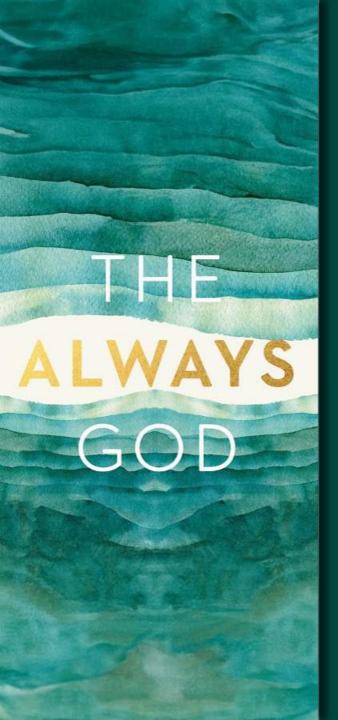


HEALTHY Prayer



Healthy Prayer Includes Healthy:

• **POSTURE**



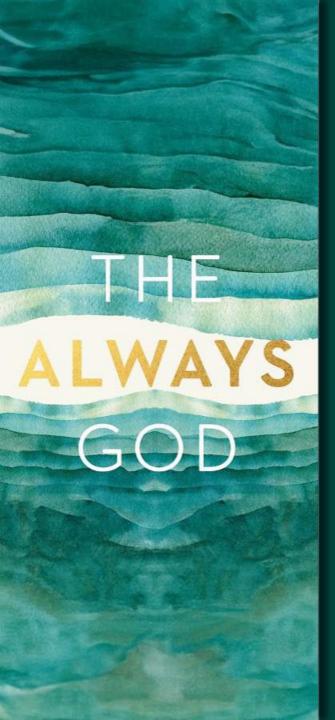
Healthy Prayer Includes Healthy:

• **POSTURE**

- Not PHYSICAL posture
 - Sitting
 - Kneeling
 - Standing
 - Lying prostrate
 - Hands lifted up

"Physical posture is an important part of prayer. It's like a prayer within a prayer. Posture is to prayer as tone is to communication. If words are what you say, then posture is how you say it... physical postures help posture our hearts and minds." THE ALWAYS

Mark Batterson

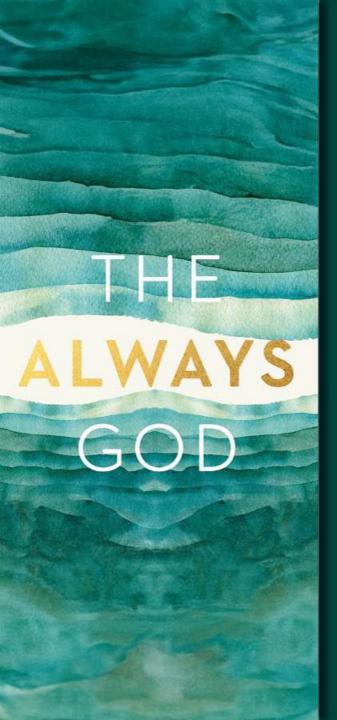


Healthy Prayer Includes Healthy:

- **POSTURE**
 - Not PHYSICAL posture, but
 - **HEART** posture

2 Kings 19:14 (NLT) — "After Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it, he went up to the LORD's Temple and spread it out before the LORD."

2 Kings 20:2–3 (NLT) — "When Hezekiah heard this, he turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, 3 'Remember, O LORD, how I have always been faithful to you and have served you single-mindedly, always doing what pleases you.' Then he broke down and wept bitterly."



Healthy Prayer Includes Healthy:

• **POSTURE**

- Not PHYSICAL posture, but
- **HEART** posture
 - Humility
 - Brokenness

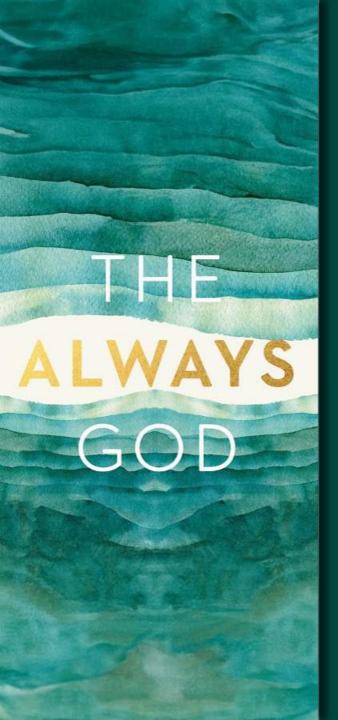
Psalm 34:17–18 (NLT) — "The LORD hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles. **18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.**"

1 Peter 5:5 (NLT) — "In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you, dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2 Kings 19:15 (NLT) — "And Hezekiah prayed this prayer before the LORD: 'O LORD, God of Israel, you are enthroned between the mighty cherubim! You alone are God of all the kingdoms of the earth. You alone created the heavens and the earth.'"

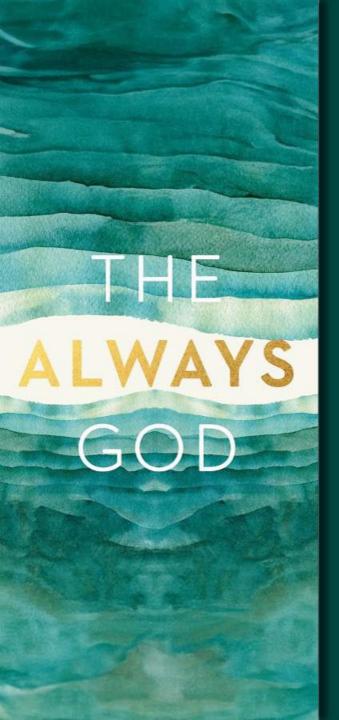
WE ARE NOT GOD

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Reasons God Doesn't Respond:

1. Pride



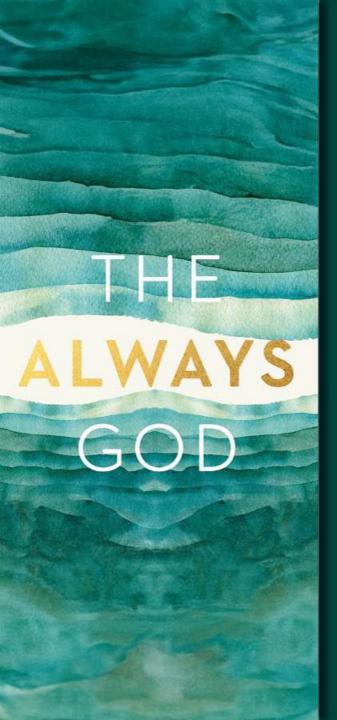
Reasons God Doesn't Respond:

1. Pride

2. Unbelief

Psalm 10:4 (NLT) — "The wicked are too proud to seek God. They seem to think that God is dead."

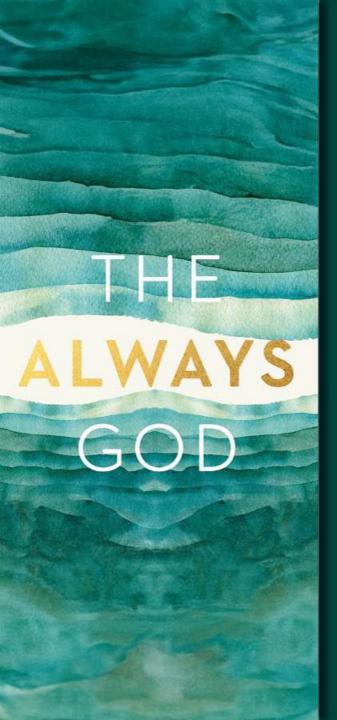
James 1:6–8 (NLT) — "But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. 7 Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do."



Reasons God Doesn't Respond:

- 1. Pride
- 2. Unbelief
- 3. Selfishness

James 4:3 (NLT) — "And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure."

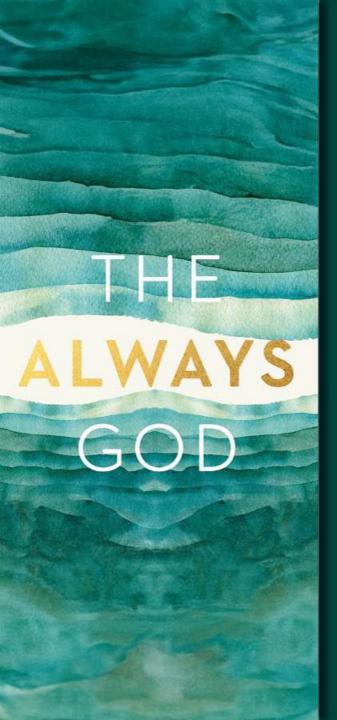


Reasons God Doesn't Respond:

- 1. Pride
- 2. Unbelief
- 3. Selfishness
- 4. Disobedience

Isaiah 59:1–2 (NLT) — "Listen! The LORD's arm is not too weak to save you, nor is his ear too deaf to hear you call. 2 It's your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore." **Psalm 66:18 (NLT)** — "If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened."

Proverbs 28:9 (NLT) — "God detests the prayers of a person who ignores the law."



Reasons God Doesn't Respond:

- 1. Pride
- 2. Unbelief
- 3. Selfishness
- 4. Disobedience
- 5. Fractured Relationships

Matthew 5:23–24 (NLT) — "So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, 24 leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God."

Mark 11:25 (NLT) — "But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too."

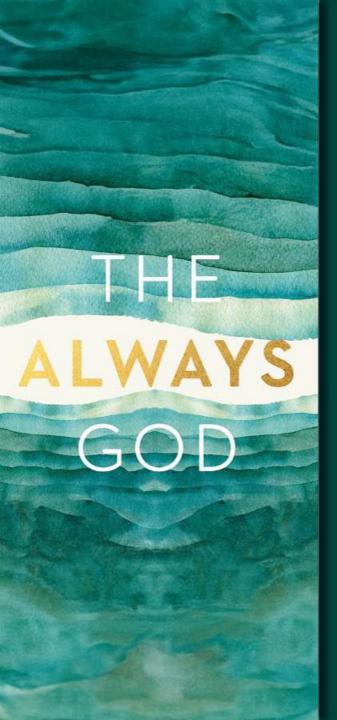
1 Peter 3:7 (NLT) — "In the same way, you husbands" must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered."





The AM is STILL the AM and He is STILL Hearing Prayers!

2 Kings 18:5–7 (NLT) — "Hezekiah trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before or after his time. 6 He remained faithful to the LORD in everything, and he carefully obeyed all the commands the LORD had given Moses. 7 So the LORD was with him, and Hezekiah was successful in everything he did. He revolted against the king of Assyria and refused to pay him tribute."



Healthy Prayer Includes Healthy:

- POSTURE
- **PERSPECTIVE**

HOWEVER THE LORD SAW FIT.

Isaiah 55:8–9 (NLT) — "My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,' says the LORD. 'And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. 9 For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."

Conclusion / Application

GOD

ALWAYS

1. Confession

1 John 1:9 (NLT) — "But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."

Romans 8:26–27 (NLT) — "And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. **27** And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will."

Confession Ask God for What is On Your Heart

1 John 5:14–15 (NLT) — "And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. **15** And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for."

