



**God, answer my prayer
RIGHT NOW!**



God is the keeper of time, he reserves the right to act in his own schedule. Even though we may not understand why God delays our requests or answers, God is always working out of love for us and for our betterment.

John 11:1-11 KJV

[1] Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. [2] (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) [3] Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. [4] When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby. [5] Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. [6] When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was. [7] Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judaea again. [8] His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again? [9] Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world. [10] But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him. [11] These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.

When God delays us:

1. He is growing our faith

Faith grows through forging. It has to be tested in order for us to realize we have it. Faith also needs to grow once it begins. It grows through stress and flexing. When God is acting, or not acting, on our behalf, we can make the mistake in thinking God might not understand, or doesn't get it. But God is without error, he makes no mistakes. **ALL** his actions are deliberate, purposeful, Holy and righteous. He knows what he's doing always, and is always working on us with a perfect love for us.

John 11:5-6 KJV

[5] Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. [6] When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

2. He is speaking to other people

No matter what I'm going through, there will always be other people involved in one way or another. Sometimes God is silent to us because he's preparing others who may be involved to be ready before he acts. A blessing from God tends to come full circle when performed for us, it blesses others in ways that are specific to their own situations and needs. This all-encompassing approach can only be done by God and it's awesomeness brings glory and honor to him.

John 11:11-15 KJV

[11] These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. [12] Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. [13] Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. [14] Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. [15] And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.

3. He is magnifying His Son

This is a reminder to mankind that Jesus doesn't just depend on God, but that Jesus **IS** God incarnate. That Jesus, being God, can do all things in this world and can transform us from a lost state through sin and failure into a purified state that allows us to reside in the presence of God. Our one and only bridge to perfection.

John 11:4 KJV

When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.

4. He is teaching us His will

The will of God for every one of us, the absolute purpose for our creation, is to bring glory to himself. Time and effort will never be too much for God in dealing with us to reach a place where our faith says "God knows best" by default.

John 11:40 KJV

Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

John 11:41-42 KJV

[41] Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. [42] And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

God is a teacher, always teaching us, perfecting us.

John 16:12 KJV

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

Two great types of faith we should strive to achieve:

1. “Nevertheless” Faith

Luke 22:42 KJV

Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

2. “If-not” Faith

Daniel 3:17-18 KJV

[17] If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. [18] But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.