Beth-El Baptist Church
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Is God ever inattentive to my prayer?

People often feel abandoned by God and that their prayers are not being heard. As a result they begin to lose hope.

1. Why do people think that their prayers are not being heard?
   Psalm **22:1-8**

   People often feel that their prayers are not being heard when they cry out to God for deliverance and yet they do not feel like they have been delivered.

2. Are there prayers that God does not listen to?
   John **9:31** Psalm **66:18**
   1 Peter **3:7** James **4:3**

   God does not listen to the prayers of sinners who are seeking God's assistance in their sinful pursuits. The prayers of a person who is disrespecting and dishonoring others may not be heard. My prayers may not be heard if they are only about my desires and wants of this world.

3. Are there prayers that I can know that God will listen to?
   Nehemiah **1:5-7** Psalm **130:1-4**

   We know that God will hear the prayers of confession and repentance.

4. What can I do if I feel abandoned by God?
   1 Peter **4:15-19** Ephesians **1:3-5**
   Hebrews **13:5** James **4:7-10**

   We need to begin by evaluating whether or not we have engaged in some specific sinful act that is resulting in a sense of God's absence. If we have sinned against God, then we need to confess and repent of that sin. We need to remember that God has promised to never leave us nor turn His back upon us. Therefore if we feel we have been abandoned by God we need to remember that He is still there and that we need to trust Him more.

5. What can I do to make sure my prayers are being heard?
   1 John **5:14-15**

   When I pray according to God's proclaimed will, we know that God will honor and act upon that prayer. As we submit ourselves to God and to God's will, then we are prepared to accept whatever enters into our lives as being the will and desire of God for which we can give Him thanks.