

Does the Bible say that your prayers will not be answered if you have unforgiveness in your heart?

It is important to forgive others who have repented of sin to restore Christian fellowship (2 Co 2:7–10) and be cleansed spiritually (Jas 5:15, 16). God does not forgive one who is unforgiving toward another (Mt 18:23–35). Those who forgive their brethren will themselves be forgiven (Mk 11:25, 26).

Jesus said, “Be on your guard. If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and comes back to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him (Lk 17:3–4).”

The answer to one’s prayer may be refused by God because of: sin (Ps 66:18), selfishness (Jas 4:3), doubt (Jas 1:5–7), disobedience (Pr 28:9), inhumanity (Pr 21:13) and pride (Lk 18:11, 12, 14).¹

God does not take kindly to his people being mistreated (Mic 3:2–5).

¹ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson’s quick reference topical Bible index (p. 500). Thomas Nelson Publishers.