

*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).<sup>1</sup>

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

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