



## **CIRCLE | Thankful for Unanswered Prayers January 29, 2017**

**Text: 2 Corinthians 12:2-9 (p.970)**

Very often God waits for us to pray and act in \_\_\_\_\_ before He does what He's going to do on the earth. (**James 4:2**)

It's a truth that we struggle with. And one of the reasons I believe we struggle is a lingering \_\_\_\_\_ that we don't often acknowledge in church.

What happens when God \_\_\_\_\_ answer my prayers?

Paul didn't just pray; he \_\_\_\_\_.

But God did not answer His prayer – at least not in the way Paul desired. God said \_\_\_\_\_.

**When God says \_\_\_\_\_ He's often up to something \_\_\_\_\_.**

God loves us too much to give us everything we ask for. And deep down I'm really \_\_\_\_\_ for that.

Jesus is the "middle man" so to speak between us and God. And Jesus, if I may, \_\_\_\_\_ our prayers. (**Heb. 4:16; 7:25; 10:12**)

I've prayed for so many things that were off. And Jesus lovingly protected \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_.

No one likes to hear \_\_\_\_\_.

But at the same time, it's so comforting and \_\_\_\_\_.

I can pray with child-like boldness, knowing that if I'm off Jesus is going to \_\_\_\_\_ it.

I understand we won't see all of what God's up to until \_\_\_\_\_. There are some really tough situations where God has said no that I still really struggle.

But I'm confident that the One who did not spare Jesus is also at work in all things for the \_\_\_\_\_ of those who love Him, including being at work in unanswered prayer.