

What do your relationships have to do with answered prayer? Well, think about this: we often sing the words of Psalm 24:3-4, *“Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? And who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood, and has not sworn deceitfully”* (NASB). Jesus was very clear when he taught his disciples about the impact of our relationships on the matter of answered prayer: *“And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anybody, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive your sins”* (Mark 11:25). If we all want our prayers to be heard, we best consider seriously our disposition, our tone, and our spirit when we pray.

A forgiving disposition:

A forgiving tone:

A loving spirit

Personal Applications and Conversations

1. Describe the grumpiest person you have ever known.
2. How does anger or bitterness affect your prayer life in the moment and in terms of your satisfaction?
3. What do you do when you realize that you are privately grumbling about everything?
4. How do you know if you have a forgiving disposition?
5. What is your primary motive to forgive any and everyone who has treated you unjustly or shown you some form of disrespect?



When you pray—forgive!

Mark 11:25

**Pastor John Ploog
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