

## **BBC Home Bible Study Outline - 1/12/25 “God is Faithful” – 1 Corinthians 1:9**

***God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.***

Can God’s holy character & perfect nature allow Him to be unfaithful? Are there things God can’t do? God is perfect in all His ways & therefore cannot change (*change is always either for better, or for worse*)

**Discussion:** 1) According to [James 1:13](#), [Titus 1:2](#) & [Hebrews 6:18](#), what are three things God can’t do?  
2) God’s nature being perfect, what does it mean in [2 Timothy 2:13](#); *He can’t deny Himself*?

Through God’s grace & mercy, He regularly, and very often grants undeserved blessings to mankind. But God requires faith & obedience from us as a condition for His specified blessings ([Psalm 37:5](#)). Not infrequently, many may come to Church be affirmed *in* their sin. Not to repent & be set free *from* it.

**Discussion:** 1) According to [1 Corinthians 1:9](#), how does God obligate Himself to be faithful to us?  
2) If called into the fellowship of Christ, how secure is God’s covenant relationship with us?

Can we rightly question God’s faithfulness by the length of time it takes for Him to respond to our prayers?  
**3 Biblical examples** for when God answers prayers: *immediately*; *much later*; or even *after our death*.

### **When God answers *immediately*:**

In [Isaiah 65:24](#), God promises that one day He will answer even before He’s called on. He will “hear” (*meaning; to ‘answer’ by granting the petition*), while His people are still speaking their requests.

Read the story of Abraham’s servant sent on a mission to find Isaac a wife, [Genesis 24:1-28](#).

**Discussion:** 1) In light of God’s promise recorded in [Isaiah 65:24](#), what happened in [Genesis 24:15](#)?  
2) In connection with [Psalm 37:5](#), what does “*I being in the way*” mean? (from [Gen 24:27b](#))

### **When God *delays* His answer, but eventually does so; at some time *during* our lifetimes:**

In [Galatians 6:9](#) & [2 Thessalonians 3:13](#), we are instructed not to become weary in “well-doing.” [2 Thessalonians 3:1-5](#) teaches that “well-doing” goes beyond merely just “behaving well.” It suggests “well-doing” includes **prayer** for *deliverance from wickedness*, *direction of our hearts*, and *patience*.

Two Bible examples of God’s delayed response to prayer, until late in life, are recorded in [Genesis 18:11-15](#) of Abraham & Sarah, and [Luke 1:5-25](#) related to the priest Zacharias (*John the Baptist’s father*).

**Discussion:** 1) When is there a time in life when ‘impossibility’ seals the fate of our prayers as denied?  
2) Is there any indication that elderly Abraham & Zacharias were still praying for a child?

### **When God *delays* His answer, but does so, at some time *after* our lifetimes:**

[Psalm 56:8](#) reveals that God keeps a record of our discouragements & ‘collects’ our tears in a bottle. [Revelation 5:8](#) & [8:3-4](#) tells us our prayers are collected, and even after our death they’re offered to God -This suggests that all of our prayers, even our lifetime’s ‘unanswered’ prayers, have eternal purpose. [Jeremiah 32:27](#) goes further and says ([v.36-44](#)), that God answers prayers of restoration & blessing, even *after* we have endured His severe judgment; (*even when it may have consumed our earthly lives!*)

**Discussion:** 1) Do our prayers have an expiration date? If not in this life, when is their purpose fulfilled?  
2) Twice God asks ([Gen 18:14](#) & [Jer 32:27](#)), “*is anything too hard for me?*” According to all the passages we’ve studied about God’s faithfulness, why is the correct answer, “No”?

### **God’s Faithfulness:**

The eternal truths that God’s *character is holy*, that His *nature is perfect*, and that He *never changes*, give us confidence of His *faithfulness*. But on top of that, God calls us into the fellowship of His Son! This gives us an added assurance of His covenant-oath of faithfulness! We are indeed blessed!