

What hinders prayer? – John 15:7
James Muldoon - Carey Baptist Church - 12 January 2014

Introduction

- Note down a Bible verse which speaks about God answering prayer.
- How good are Christians at praying these days?
- What does Jesus liken himself to in John 15?
- What does he like his disciples to?
- What does he want the branches to do?
- How can they do that?

i A lack of closeness to Christ hinders prayer

- What does it mean to remain in Christ?
- What happens when we are close to Christ?
- What will be our attitude to prayer then?
- What do you need to do if your relationship with the Lord has become a bit distant?

ii A lack of conformity to the Bible hinders prayer

- What specifically does it mean to have Christ's words remain in us?
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
 - (iv)
 - (v)
- What will happen if you approach the Bible this way?
- What will be your attitude to prayer then?
- What do you need to do if you are struggling to take in the word?

iii A lack of confidence in prayer hinders prayer

- Why don't some Christians have confidence in prayer?
- What is Jesus promising here?
- But what precisely is he saying?
- What should this do to our praying?
- What do you need to do if you are lacking in confidence in prayer?