PRACTICAL APPLICATION _____

1. What are you currently praying for? Have you heard an answer from God yet? If not, how can your group encourage you in the period of waiting?

2. On Sunday, Pastor Rusty shared that God responds to our prayers in one of five ways. What were the five responses and which one of them is the greatest challenge for you?

PRAYER REQUESTS _____

MESSAGE NOTES

We question God's _____ _____.

We question God's _____.

We question _____ _____.

God didn't _____ my prayer.

God answers our prayers in five ways:

1) I thought you'd _____ _____.

2) Yes, and here's _____.

3) Yes, but not the way you _____.

4) Not at this _____.

5) No, because I _____ _____ too much.

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CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

For the week of April 16, 2023
After Amen series

GETTING STARTED_____

1. Have you ever called or texted a friend or family member requesting a response, only to never hear back from them? If so, how did it make you feel?

2. Sometimes when we pray, we don't hear God speak back to us. What do you assume when God seems silent?

3. If you've ever felt God saying "no," you're not alone. Throughout Scripture we see that some heroes of the faith had the same experience. Read the following verses and answer the questions below.

   • **1 Chronicles 28:1-9**

   • **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

   Why did God say no in both situations? Did He give a response to the person who asked? If so, what was it?

DIGGING DEEPER_____

1. Most people view prayer time as a chance to ask God for anything and, in most cases, we expect Him to give us whatever we ask. Why does God seem to answer some prayers and not others?

2. As much as Scripture has to say about what we do before we pray, Jesus also gives us examples of what to do after we have said, "Amen." Why do you think that is?

4. No prayer goes unanswered. The answer just might not be what we expected. According to the following verses, what are some explanations for why, at times, God doesn't give us the answer we asked for?

   • **Isaiah 55:8-9**

   • **1 John 5:14-15**

   In both verses, God's will is mentioned in reference to our prayers. Is it possible to know God's will before we pray? If so, as a group discuss some ways to better understand the will of God.