

*Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me! Psalm 66:16-20 (NIV)*

## **A Pure Heart**

I want to be able to pray prayers that you will hear and answer. **That is a very good desire that you have in your heart. What do you think I want?** I think we both want the same thing. You want me to pray prayers that you can hear and answer. **Yes, I do. Have no doubt about that. What might hinder your prayers from being heard and answered?** If I were to have an ungrateful and unthankful heart, I doubt that my prayers would be heard and answered. **How will you make sure that you don't have an ungrateful and unthankful heart?** I will live a life of offering praise and thanks to you. I will remind myself of your goodness. I will make known your goodness to others. I will offer my testimony of your loving kindness to others. **That will be very good.**

**What might also hinder your prayers from being heard and answered?** If I lived a life of prayerlessness, I would not have prayers that are heard and answered. You won't answer a prayer that is never prayed. So, I will pour out my heart to you. I will make my needs and the needs of others known to you, every day as I come to meet with you in prayer. **That will be very good.**

**Is there anything else that might hinder your prayers from being heard and answered?** If I cherished sin in my heart, I am sure that my prayers would go unheard and unanswered. **What will you do about that? How can you possibly have a heart that is pure before me?** That is a good question. **Do you have an answer?** Yes, I do. I must leave my old life of sin. I must confess my sins to you. I must turn my life over to you. You will give me a new life to live. You will cleanse me. You will purify me. Only you can make me pure and righteous in your sight. **That's true. Do you have any doubts about my ability to make you pure and righteous in my sight?** No, I do not. **Why is that?** The blood of your Son has paid for my sin and cleansed my unrighteousness. He has made me able to enter your presence. His righteousness is now my righteousness. Now, I can give praise and pray prayers that you will hear and answer. **Yes, you can. Will you?** Yes, I will. **That will be very good.**

*Lord, forgive my sins and cleanse my unrighteousness. Only you can make my heart pure. Help me to not cherish sin in my heart. Help me to pray prayers you can hear and answer. I will continue to offer prayers and praises to you for your goodness to me. Amen*

**Becoming Like Christ** *Heard My Voice*

Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!

NIV Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *Paid Attention*

Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he did for me. For I cried out to him for help, praising him as I spoke. If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But God did listen! He paid attention to my prayer. Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or withdraw his unfailing love from me.

NLT Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *Given Heed*

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

NRSV Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *Has Heard*

Come and hear, all you who reverently and worshipfully fear God, and I will declare what He has done for me! I cried aloud to Him; He was extolled and high praise was under my tongue. If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me; But certainly God has heard me; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not rejected my prayer nor removed His mercy and loving-kindness from being [as it always is] with me.

AMP Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *Has Heard*

Come and hear, all who fear God, And I will tell of what He has done for my soul. I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue. If I regard wickedness in my heart, The Lord will not hear; But certainly God has heard; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer Nor His lovingkindness from me.

NASB Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *Has Listened*

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul. I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

ESV Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *Has Heard Me*

Come and hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul. I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue. If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear. But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer, Nor His mercy from me!

NKJV Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *He Heard*

All believers, come here and listen, let me tell you what God did for me. I called out to him with my mouth, my tongue shaped the sounds of music. If I had been cozy with evil, the Lord would never have listened. But he most surely did listen, he came on the double when he heard my prayer. Blessed be God: he didn't turn a deaf ear, he stayed with me, loyal in his love.

MSG Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *He Heard*

Come and hear, all of you who reverence the Lord, and I will tell you what he did for me: For I cried to him for help with praises ready on my tongue. He would not have listened if I had not confessed my sins. But he listened! He heard my prayer! He paid attention to it! Blessed be God, who didn't turn away when I was praying and didn't refuse me his kindness and love.

TLB Psalm 66:16-20

**Becoming Like Christ** *Has Listened*

All of you who fear God, come and listen, and I will tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth and praised him with my tongue. If I had known of any sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened to me. But God has listened; he has heard my prayer. Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or hold back his love from me.

NCV Psalm 66:16-20

# Heard My Voice

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Becoming Like Christ** – Psalm 66:16-20

**In Context:** *Read Psalm 66*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me! Psalm 66:16-20 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Come and listen, | all you | who fear God; | let me tell you | what he | has done for me. | I cried out to him | with my mouth; | his praise | was on | my tongue. | If I had cherished sin | in my heart, | the Lord | would not have listened; | but God | has surely listened | and heard | my voice | in prayer. | Praise be | to God, | who has | not rejected | my prayer | or withheld | his love | from me! Psalm 66:16-20 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, forgive my sins and cleanse my unrighteousness. Only you can make my heart pure. Help me to not cherish sin in my heart. Help me to pray prayers you can hear and answer. I will continue to offer prayers and praises to you for your goodness to me. Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How has testimony from a fellow believer encouraged you in your faith?

**What testimony can you share that will encourage other believers in their faith?**

What praises would you like to offer to God right now?

What prayers are you bringing before the Lord right now?

**Why will cherishing sin in your heart hinder your prayer being heard and answered?**

How has God most clearly demonstrated His love for you?

**What prayers has God heard and answered for you?**

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**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Meet in prayer with the Lord so you can make your prayers and praises know to Him.

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**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will hear and answer your prayers.

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**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group what prayers you are praying to the Lord right Now.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*With a pure heart make your prayers and praises know to God.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, with a pure heart I will make my prayers and praises known to you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, what prayers and praises should I make known to you today?*

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