

“God, please change that person!”

Have you been praying like that?

You can keep on doing so if you want, but I wouldn't recommend it.

Nowhere in the Bible do we see such a prayer answered with an, “Okay” or “Yes”.

Rather, we need to pray that God will change us. We need to pray for conviction of our own faults, instead of those of the other person. Then we need to pray for wisdom and compassion to understand that person. With this understanding we need to pray for patience to interact with that person. We need to pray, but for the right things.

The most helpful prayer is always, “God, please accomplish Your will in this situation.” In praying this, we must mean that we are willing to submit to His will in this situation, even if it is hard, uncomfortable, and humbling. In this way, God truly can accomplish His will. Then God will be glorified before us, as we see how He works in us and through us.

There will always be difficult people from whom we cannot escape. Some of these are in our family. Some may be neighbors, or at work, or other places. Let us seek to bring God glory through how we deal with all of these people. Seek His will to be accomplished in you.

- pastor Robin