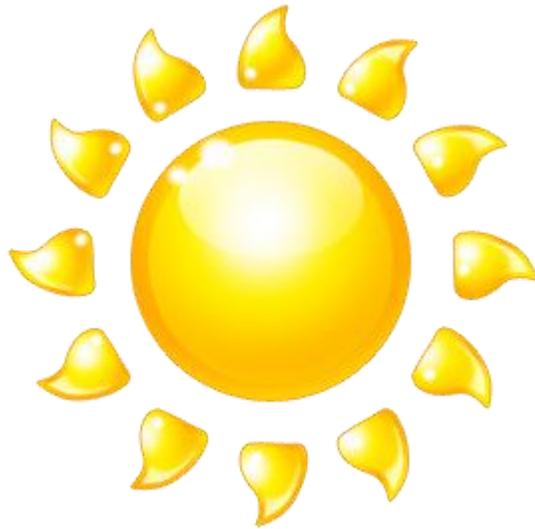


God Will Not Withhold Good From You



**For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
the LORD bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does he withhold from
those who walk uprightly. - Psalm 84:11**

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Have you ever asked your dad or mom for something, and you didn't get it? Imagine you asked to go over to a friend's house tomorrow after school but your mom said, "No." How would you feel? You might be disappointed or upset, especially if your mom refused to explain why she wouldn't let you go. "I know what's best," she said. "You'll just have to trust me."

As it turned out, your mom had planned a surprise birthday party for you; that's why she wouldn't let you go to your friend's house. Although you asked for something good (going to your friend's house), your mom had something better in mind (a surprise birthday party). Your mom wasn't withholding good from you. Instead, she was giving you something better than you had imagined. She was throwing you a party!

This story reminds us of our relationship with God. Sometimes we pray and ask God for things that we don't get. When this happens, we might start to think that God is keeping us from good; that he is intentionally holding back things we need to be happy. But that's not true. Like a wise and loving parent, God always gives us what is best. He never withholds good from us. He always gives favor and honor to those who trust in him.

- ☆ Do you believe God's promise to give you all good things?
- ☆ Have you prayed and asked God for something but he hasn't given it? Why might he withhold it?
- ☆ What is your response to God's withholding?
- ☆ How does memorizing this verse help you to trust in God's wisdom and goodness?