

Prayers

Part 2: The Prayer of Jabez

(Ephesians 6:18 GW)

Pray in the Spirit in every situation. Use every kind of prayer and request there is.

(1 Chronicles 4:9-10)

Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain." Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request.

The Prayer of Jabez teaches us to:

1. Pray for blessing.

(1 Chronicles 4:10)

"Oh that you would bless me..."

Bless in Hebrew is "barak" – God's greatness would stoop down into my life

(Psalm 18:35)

You give me your shield of victory, and your right hand sustains me; you stoop down to make me great.

(Genesis 12:2 NLT)

I will bless you...and you will be a blessing to others.

2. Pray for influence.

(1 Chronicles 4:10)

"...enlarge my territory..."

(Ephesians 1:18)

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

(Psalm 2:8)

Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.

“Lord, show me your purpose for my life so I can live a life bigger than my own.”

3. Pray for presence.

(1 Chronicles 4:10)

“Let your hand be with me...”

(Acts 11:21)

The Lord’s hand was with them and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

(Exodus 33:15-17)

Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?” And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked.”

“Lord, be with me because what you’ve called me to is too big for me.”

4. Pray for protection.

(1 Chronicles 4:10)

“...and keep me from harm.”

(1 Peter 5:8)

The devil is like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.

(Romans 8:35-37)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

“Lord, strengthen me in and protect me from every attack of the enemy.”

You have two choices in prayer:

1. You can talk about your past and your problems.
2. You can talk about God's promises.

Prayer isn't about God moving toward us. Prayer is about us moving toward God.