

SUNDAY MESSAGE

THE POWER OF
BOLD
PRAYERS

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THE LIFT CHURCH

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THE TEXT

JOSHUA 10:6-14

"Sun, stand still over Gibeon; and Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon... there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the Lord heeded the voice of a man; for the Lord fought for Israel."

JOSHUA 10:12-14 (NKJV)

Gibeon was under attack by five Amorite kings. Joshua marched all night from Gilgal to defend them, and God had already promised: "Do not fear them, for I have delivered them into your hand." God routed the enemy and sent hailstones from heaven — but daylight was fading before the battle was finished.

So Joshua prayed one of the boldest prayers in Scripture, and God answered. **The miracle was never about the greatness of Joshua — it revealed the greatness of the God who fought for Israel.**

POINT ONE

BEGINS WITH GOD'S PROMISE

Joshua didn't pray out of panic — he prayed from a promise. Before he ever spoke, God had already said, "I have delivered them into your hand." His prayer was bold because it was rooted in what God had already spoken.

Our confidence in prayer doesn't come from our prowess, our personalities, or the volume of our voices. It comes from knowing we're praying according to God's will (1 John 5:14–15). Faith comes by hearing His Word (Rom. 10:17).

Do not only pray your fear. Pray God's promise against your fear. Fear says the battle is too great; faith says the Lord has already spoken. Fear says there's not enough time; faith says, "Sun, stand still."

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**IF OUR PRAYERS AREN'T IMPOSSIBLE TO US, THEY ARE
INSULTING TO GOD.**

MARK BATTERSON

POINT TWO

FLOWS FROM ABIDING

Joshua's public boldness was born out of private intimacy with God. He stayed close to Moses, served in the tent of meeting, and did not depart from the tabernacle (Ex. 33:11). He could stand before an army because he had first learned to stand in the presence of God.

Before he ever told the sun to stand still, he had learned to remain still before the Lord. As we abide in Christ, our desires are shaped by His — His will becomes our will (John 15:7).

Presence before power. Secret place before public authority. Alignment before assignment. Bold praying is not a substitute for abiding — it is the fruit of abiding. Everything flows out of relationship.

POINT THREE

CONFRONTS STRONGHOLDS

We are not fighting ordinary battles with ordinary weapons (2 Cor. 10:3–5). A stronghold is a fortified pattern of thinking — deception, fear, pride, or resistance — that opposes the knowledge of God. The enemy builds these strongholds with lies: **"You will never change." "Your family is too far gone." "God cannot use you."**

But God has given us mighty weapons — not the sword of anger or personal opinion, but the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. This is a season of fresh alignment: strongholds are coming down, lies are being exposed, prodigals are coming home.

CLOSING REFLECTION

YOUR "SUN, STAND STILL" PRAYER

Joshua didn't pray, "Lord, help us somehow." He named the need — specifically, boldly, persistently. Elijah's 34-word prayer brought fire from heaven. What is the bold prayer God is calling you to pray?

- 1 What battle is unfinished** — what stronghold needs to fall, what prodigal needs to come home?
- 2 What has the enemy convinced you is impossible?** Is anything too hard for the Lord?
- 3 Will you pray God's promise,** specifically and persistently, until His will is accomplished?

Closing charge: "Let God work in you. Let His Word abide in you. Let His will become your desire. Then open your mouth with faith. Pray the Word. Pray specifically. Pray persistently. Pray boldly."