

## MIRACULOUS FAITH LIFE GROUP LESSON (WEEK 4) PRAYING “GOD SIZED PRAYERS”

### Memory Verse

*“Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” (James 5:16 NIV)*

**Introduction:** Our goal today is to let God help us “supersize our prayers” by learning how to pray in faith.

- I. In reading in James 5:17-18, we see an example of someone whose prayers were powerful and effective.** It says, *“Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again, he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.”*

The difference between Elijah and us wasn’t that he was more perfect; it was he prayed differently than many of us. He allowed God to give him prayers that changed history. You were born to change history through your prayers.

- A. To grow in faith automatically means to grow in prayer. Prayer is the pipeline of faith.
- B. Some quotes on prayer
- “Prayer is the difference between the best we can do, and the best God can do.”
  - “Prayer is writing history in advance.”
  - “When we work we work; when we pray God works.”
  - “Prayer should be our first response not our last resort.”

### Question 1

Can you think of a prayer or prayers you prayed or someone else prayed for you that changed the history of your life and others? What was something you observed about that prayer? Which of the comments above on prayer stand out to you?

A “God sized” prayer is a prayer that is audacious and lines up with the greatness of God, His passion, ability, and His eagerness to step into our lives and do the miraculous. We are being challenged this week to step up the level of our praying to match the eagerness of God to do the miraculous. Ephesians 3:20 expresses this. *“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power at work within us.”*

### Question 2

We said that the aim of the world and the enemy is to minimize or marginalize the reality of God as a present force and factor in our lives. He is assumed generally to be a small or irrelevant factor in the challenges of most people's life.

- A. How is this reflected sometimes in the way we pray so little and often such watered-down prayers?
- B. Which of the following lies might you or others be easily tempted to believe?
- God is too busy running a universe to care about my little problem.
  - I don't pray good enough, loud enough, or with the right words or lingo to expect that my prayers would accomplish very much.
  - My 'spiritual credit score' isn't good enough; I'm not worthy of having big prayers answered.
  - I don't think it's right for me to pray bold prayers; I might not be praying according to the will of God.
  - Prayer is a last resort; it is something you should only do when all your and other people's best efforts to figure out the problem have failed.

**II. In 2 Chronicles 20:1-26 We observed some principles for praying the prayer of faith or "supersizing our prayers."**

**Question 3**

Which of the following stand out and especially speak to you?

- A. We need to pray in light of the greatness of God. They raised their faith by raising their awareness of how big God was in their present situation and crisis.

"God is not nervous about whether He has what it takes to live up to the request you are making or the miracle you are needing. The level of difficulty depends on the agency responsible for executing the tasks."

*"Nothing is impossible with God!"*

*"Lord, the God of our ancestors, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you." (2 Chron. 20:6 NIV)*

- B. God sized prayers are focused on the purposes of God not just the interests of us. We are not just praying to God but with God for His heart. We will see His miracles as we capture His heart, passion, burden, and vision for our families, school, business, city, and world.

*“Our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? They have lived in it and have built a sanctuary for your Name.” (vs. 7-8)*

- C. God sized prayers are breathed into us as we acknowledge our need and complete dependency on God. Jesus is the Author and Finisher of our faith. Great faith isn't something we just have for God but something we have from God.  
*“Our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.” (vs. 12)*
- D. God sized prayers are prayers in which we receive a word of faith to speak about our situation. *“You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, Judah and Jerusalem.” (vs. 17)*
- E. God sized prayers are multiplied in their effectiveness by praying in agreement together with other believers. *“The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord; indeed they came from every town in Judah to seek Him.” (vs. 4)*

**In summary God is most likely to breathe into you a God sized prayer:**

- When you are recognizing and exalting how good He is as you are honestly admitting you're need and asking Him for help.
- When you are really praying about His heart or burden for people you know He is wanting to help and reach.
- When you are declaring what you believe God is saying is His plan about the situation, and/or when you are praying in agreement with others.

**Question 4**

What is an area of your life you would like God to help you supersize your faith?  
What is an area where you would like the group to agree with you in praying and believing for a God sized miracle in your life?