

Sunday, June 8, 2025

1 Timothy 4:13, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

Title: Big Prayers - Bigger God

Text: James James 5:16 - 18; Luke 11:1 - 4

Purpose: To encourage God’s people to pray bigger and bolder prayers, because we serve a very big God, for whom nothing is impossible; and to teach that God is looking for those who will partner with Him and bring about His will in the earth.

Introduction:

Answered prayers of Bible College students in Wales impacting the outcome of D-Day

~ Personal testimonies

1. Bigger God:

~ God is in CONTROL.

~ Colossians 1:17 AMPL, “...He Himself existed and is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. [His is the controlling, cohesive force of the universe.]”

~ Hebrews 1:3 AMPL, “...upholding and maintaining and propelling all things [the entire physical and spiritual universe] by His powerful word [carrying the universe along to its predetermined goal].”

~ The devil is DEFEATED already.

2. Big Prayers:

~ God is WAITING to hear us.

~ Psalms 34:15, “The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry”

~ 2 Chronicles 16:9, “The eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth so that He may support those whose heart is completely His.”

~ James 5:16-18 KJV, “the effectual, fervent prayer of righteous man availeth much.”

~ Elijah provides a scriptural EXAMPLE of prayer that gets God’s attention:

~ EFFECTIVE – “producing or able to produce a desired effect”, the Greek word *ischuo* describes a “combative, confrontive force” that “gets into the fray” and is “engaging and overcoming”.

~ FERVENT – “a strong feeling of excitement and enthusiasm,” the word *deesis* describes “felt need that is personal and urgent”.

~ RIGHTEOUS – being righteous and doing righteously, the word *diakos* means ““approved judicially” and also “conformed to God’s standard”.

~ AVAILS MUCH – “gets the job done”, the word *energeo* means to be “engaged in”, “active and efficient”, or “working in a situation that brings it from one stage to the next”. It causes change!

~ Elijah was just a man, but he prayed with fighting words! These words should move us!

~ Jesus taught His disciples to pray in Luke 11:1-4.

~ We acknowledge God, who He is and who we are: “Our father, who art in heaven”.

~ We proclaiming His kingdom’s influence in both petition and agreement: “Thy Kingdom come”.

~ We ask for and agree with the triumph of His purposes: “Thy will be done.”

~ We recognize and assert the supremacy of His rule in both heaven and on earth: “On earth as it is in heaven.”

~ We depend thankfully upon His provision: “Give us this day our daily bread.”

~ We humbly repent of our own sin: “Forgive us our trespasses.”

~ We forgive graciously those who sin against us: “As we forgive those who trespass against us.”

~ We pray for divine guidance, wisdom and protection from evil: “Deliver us from evil.

~ We yield to God’s everlasting lordship: “For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory.”

~ We recognize all of this in light of eternity: “For ever and ever.”

~ We declare it to be so in faith: “Amen.”

Conclusion:

Those who would like to receive personal prayer may do so at the close of the service.



Further study:

A copy of “The Doctrine of Prayer and Power, a chapter from Rich’s book “Essays on the Doctrines of God” is available by request, or by scanning this QR code: