

Introduction:

- Small prayers: If God answered all your prayers this week, would it just change you, or would it change the world around you? "... *The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.*" (James 5:16, ESV)
- "*Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.*" (James 5:17-18, ESV)
- We should regularly pray prayers that are so audacious that only God could accomplish them.
- Bold prayers require faith, stir up opposition, and release miracles!

I. Desperate Times Require Bold Prayers**A. Days of Ahab**

1. 1 Kings 16:30 Ahab did evil in the sight of the Lord, more than all who were before him.
2. He married Jezebel and became a worshipper of Baal. "*And Ahab made an Asherah. Ahab did more to provoke the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.*" (1 Kings 16:33, ESV)
3. Ahab's choices lead to famine in the land as released by his prophet Elijah. The famine released a desperation in the land.
 - a) Desperate times require bold prayers...not desperate prayers. To many Christians are praying desperate prayers.
 - b) Desperation has to do with hopelessness. It prays weak, faithless prayers that go no where.
 - c) You never get the sense that Elijah is desperate in chapters 16-18. He is being cared for by God. He is being led by God. He helps others through God.
 - d) This allows Him to be bold.
 - e) God is looking for Saints who will pray bold prayers—with faith! Who will pray bold prayers—Unapologetically!

B. Elijah rises to confront Ahab. 1 Kings 18:1-46

1. 1 Kings 18:18—"You have troubled Israel, because you have abandoned the commands of God."
 - a) Ahab was the source of Israel's trouble because he had partnered with Baal. Just like many in our government who are partnering with Baal in this hour, and have partnered with Baal over the years:
 - (1) January 22, 1973 – Roe v Wade was decided.
 - (2) June 25, 2022 – Maxine Waters: "The hell with SCOTUS, We will defy them!"
 - (3) Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez – Encourages protestors to destroy.
 - b) He calls for a confrontation of the false prophets.

- c) We must confront some things in the spirit now with bold prayers.
- 2. Bold prayers are not faithless prayers. Prayers that have no power, no trust in God, prayers not backed up by the Word.
- 3. Bold prayers and not fleshly prayers. Prayers that curse people, prayers that are selfish, prayers that ignore the Word of God.

II. What Are Bold Prayers?

- A. Bold prayers are prayers that have God's agenda in mind.
 - 1. What is God saying?
 - 2. What is God doing?
 - 3. What is God after?
 - 4. God's agenda is clearly found in the Word. Why do you think when you read Kings and Chronicles you see that...*"he served the God of his father, David; or he did more evil than the kings before him."*
- B. Bold prayers are those that address a specific situation or spirit.
 - 1. You don't say to a devil, "Excuse me." You say, "Get out of my house! Get out of my life! Get out of my school!", etc.
 - 2. We serve a mountain moving God! A God who does the impossible on a regular basis. How often are you praying mountain moving prayers? You can't pray a mountain moving prayer without confidence and boldness.
 - 3. Abraham:
 - a) Abraham called those things that were not as thought they were.
 - b) He did not petition for these things he called them forth.
 - c) You have to have faith in order to call those things that are not as though they were. Faith is important to the life of the believer who prays.
 - 4. Mt 17:17 Jesus spoke to the demon. He addressed the demon. He told the demon what to do!
 - 5. Mk 11:22-24 Jesus spoke to the fig tree. He cursed it. And the next day it was dead.
 - a) Look at the boldness of this passage:
 - b) Have the God kind of faith! Have means to possess or to own! Own some mountain moving faith!
 - c) Speak/**Say** to the mountain! Believe in your heart and do not doubt and it will be done.
 - d) **We should regularly pray prayers that are so audacious that only God could accomplish them.** These kind of prayers can only be accomplished by God doing something that only He could do. As believers our prayer life should be consumed by the mountain moving side of the prayer spectrum! LESS SMALL PRAYERS!

6. When you pray bold, audacious prayers you have to know that they are not always answered instantly. This is where the term 'wrestling in prayer' comes from.
- C. Bold prayers come out of friendship with God!
1. Like Moses. Ex 19:32-34.
 - a) Consider this nation your people.
 - b) Show me your ways.
 - c) If I have found favor.
 - d) You with us makes us distinct...show me your glory. Give me proof that you will go with us.
 2. Like Elijah confronting the false prophets. These were men and women who sold out to the devil. He is confronting a spirit...the spirit of Baal.
- D. Bold prayers command devils to move! Nations to awake! Governments to shift.
1. Ezekiel 37 Speak to the bones! *"Then he said to me, 'Son of man, **these bones are the whole house of Israel.** Behold, they say, Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'"* (Ezekiel 37:11, ESV) Ezekiel is speaking to a nation!
 2. Can these bones live? In the natural—NO WAY! But God, only you can do something like that! IT IS A BIG PRAYER!
 3. Prophecy and say to the bones.
 4. Prophecy to the breath/ruach/wind/Spirit!
- E. Bold prayers are fervent not passive. Ask, Seek, Knock. *"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."* (Matthew 7:7, ESV)
- F. Bold prayers are persistent: Mt 15:22-28 Canaanite woman; Luke 8:46 woman with issue of blood; Mk 10:46-51 blind Bartimaeus. (And he was loud.)