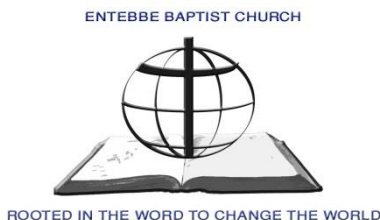


Our Vision: To be a growing, loving, caring, and holistic church based on the word of God.



Our Mission: To be rooted in the Word to change the World

Bible Study September [05-19] 2021

Theme of the year: "Victory only through Faith and Obedience"

Theme: The Art and Efficacy of Prayer

What the Church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use, men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but Men – Men of prayer." **E.M. Bounds**, *Power through prayer*.

Purpose: To bring afresh the art and efficacy of prayer.

1. First Reading: I Chronicles 4:1-23.

- a. Jabez was the descendant of kings of Judah. Who was the father of Judah? Who was Judah's first born? See. I Chronicles 2:1-3.
- b. Jabez¹ was more honourable than his brethren, but still made requests to God. What does that mean to you? See verse 9.
- c. What specific things did Jabez pray for in his prayer in verses 9-10?
- d. Is Jabez's prayer the first prayer in the book of I Chronicles?
- e. Why do you think Jabez is praying such a kind of prayer? What does Jabez's prayer teach us about prayer?
- f. What does this statement "*And God granted him what he requested*" indicate about God?
- g. What verses in Jabez's prayer relate to the Lord's prayer in Matthew 6:9-13?

2. Second Reading: II Chronicles 1:1-13

- a. How does this statement convey God to you in verse 7? "*Ask for whatever you want me to give you*". Does God give us a choice to request anything from Him? See also John 11:22, John 15:16, John 16:23.
 - i. What words in Solomon's prayer shows that he was concerned about God's Will?
 - ii. What do you think can help us to pray according to God's Will?
- b. How do we ought to pray—knowing God's promises? See verse 9.
- c. Does verse 11 mean that we should not ask for riches, wealth, honor, life for our enemies, and long life?
 - i. What do you think the author means in this verse 11?
- d. How then do we come before the Lord in prayer according I Kings 3:7?
- e. According to I Kings 3:10 the Lord was pleased. Do you believe that some prayers please God and others not?
 - i. In what circumstances can you relate prayer with your dreams?

3. Third Reading: II Kings 18:19-37, II Kings 19:1-35

¹ Jabez means sorrow

- a. What kind of king was Hezekiah² in II Kings 18:5-8?
 - i. What is the first place to seek for help in times of crisis according to King Hezekiah in II Kings 19?
 - ii. What comes out clearly about Hezekiah's prayer in II Kings 19:14-19?
 - iii. What biblical principle about prayer encourages you in verse 20 of II Kings 19?
 - iv. What do you observe in God's answer to Hezekiah's prayer through verses 20-37 of II Kings 19?
 - b. Why do you think you should not give up in times of crisis considering these texts?
 - c. What lessons do you specifically learn from King Hezekiah's prayer?
4. **Fourth Reading:** Daniel chapter 2, Daniel chapter 6.
- a. What do we learn from Daniel at the point of crisis in Daniel 2:16-18?
 - i. What was Daniel's confidence at the point of crisis?
 - ii. Why do you think Daniel does not show any sense of panic?
 - iii. What is your confidence at the point of crisis-*[pause and reflect]*?
 - b. How do verse 18, 27, and 28 encourage you to make a commitment to prayer?
 - i. We sometimes panic at a crisis point; does it mean that we have no confidence in God?
 - c. What have you done not to let anything hinder or interrupt your prayer life? See Daniel 6:10-11. What lesson do we draw from Daniel 6:10-13 and 21?
 - d. In what circumstances do we choose fear instead of prayer?
 - e. Why do you think it is a good discipline to pray as often as we can daily?
5. **Fifth Reading:** Colossians 1:1-14
- a. Kindly list down the main six (6) prayer points in Apostle Paul's prayer as highlighted in verses 9-12.
 - b. Take a moment and pray for the church of Christ worldwide through these prayer points?
 - c. Why do you think this prayer is much more needed for the church today?
 - d. What do you notice in these scriptures, whenever Apostle Paul prayed for the Colossians [Colossians 1:3, 12; 2:7; 3:15, 17; 4:2]?
 - e. Why do you think Apostle Paul's urge to Timothy is very important to us in I Timothy 2:1-8?
6. **Sixth Reading:** Matthew 6:5-15
- a. What key aspects does Jesus caution us about how we pray in verses 5 and 7?
 - b. Is this text prohibiting us to come to God several times with the same requests?
 - c. What important elements of prayer does Jesus draw our attention to?
 - d. What essence of prayer is highlighted in this text?
 - e. Why do we ask God-Our Father to give us our daily bread in verse 11 when He knows already what we exactly need in verse 8?
 - f. What does praying God's Will to be done mean? How does God accomplish His Will on Earth?

What do these scriptures further highlight about prayer? Romans 8:26-27, Jude 1:20-21, Matthew 21:22, John 14:13-17

Kindly, highlight some principles and lessons about prayer from this study and write down how you will apply them in your life beginning this week.

Memory Verse: Matthew 6:10

² Hezekiah means, "Yahweh has strengthened".