

**INTRODUCTION**

What would happen if 100% of us prayed 100% more this year? If you were to double the amount you pray this year, do you really think it would have any impact on your life? Do you believe prayer can actually make a difference—in your family, in your relationships, in your place of work or business? Could prayer change your neighborhood, could it change this community, our country, what about the world? As we go through 21 Days of Prayer, we will be looking at the prayer of a man named Jabez, a man who’s noteworthy, not for what he accomplished, but rather, for what he prayed.

**SCRIPTURE**

*<sup>9</sup>Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, “I gave birth to him in pain.” <sup>10</sup>Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” And God granted his request.*

1 Chronicles 4:9-10

**GROUP QUESTIONS**

1. Share with your group what your name means. If you don’t know the meaning, Google it.
2. Read 1 Chronicles 4:9-10. In his sermon on Sunday, Aaron focused not on the prayer itself, but on the words that surrounded the prayer: “*Jabez cried out to the God of Israel...and God granted his request.*” Why do you think God granted Jabez’s request?

3. Read the following verses, and list the reasons Scripture gives for praying:

1 Chronicles 16:11, Colossians 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 145:18, James 4:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Philippians 4:6-7, James 1:5 \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 15:30, James 4:15 \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 5:16, Luke 6:12 \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 15:8 \_\_\_\_\_

4. What are the four parts of Jabez’s request? Which of these four parts impact you the most?

### *Study Questions for Community Groups*

5. Jabez, whose name means pain, asks God for freedom from pain. Is there something that you feel labeled by that you would like to be free from?
6. If you could ask God to do something significant in your life, and you knew that He would grant your request, what would you ask Him for? What is preventing you from praying this prayer now?

### **APPLICATION**

Commit to 21 Days of Prayer. Visit [www.fellowshipcleveland.com/prayer](http://www.fellowshipcleveland.com/prayer) to view the daily prayer calendar and see other resources. Text 21PRAY to 797979 to receive a text reminder each day.

### **FOR FURTHER STUDY**

1. Read Genesis 18:16-33. Abraham intercedes directly with God on behalf of Sodom. What is the basis for his bold pleading for the city (verse 25)?
2. Why do you think Abraham kept lowering the number from 50 all the way down to 10?
3. Does Abraham's persistent requests of God on behalf of a corrupt city affect your attitude toward those who are far from God?
4. Do you think prayer can change God's mind? Why or why not?
5. What do you learn about who God is based upon this story? Does anything you learn surprise you? Does anything impact how you will pray?