

Audacious PRAYING BIG PRAYERS

Glory Days: Session 4

We talk to God. We cry out to him. That's part of being a Christian.. We pray!

But do we pray with bold confidence and shocking audacity? Do we know

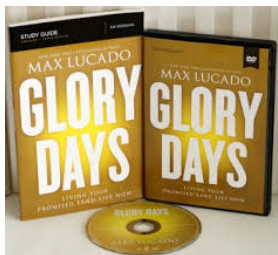
God hears us and actually responds to our prayers? If we watch Joshua closely and learn from his example, our prayers will be more frequent, more courageous and more powerful!

So often our prayers can revert to familiar refrains that are left from our childhood: simple, rhythmic, and tame. They cover 'safe topics' such as blessing our food, giving us a good night's sleep, placing angels round our beds and blessing those we love. **If we are going to tackle the obstacles on the way to a life of inheritance, we need to move beyond these starters, take the training wheels and discover that bold, audacious, and shocking prayers thrill God's heart and open the hand of the creator.**

WHO TAUGHT YOU TO PRAY? HOW DID YOU LEARN? HOW HAS YOUR PRAYER LIFE GROWN?

Live with one ear toward heaven. Keep the line open to God.

WATCH THE DVD AND CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING.....



- The nature of Wesley's and Luther's prayers
- The tension that 'bold praying' causes compared to God's invitation to 'storm heaven' with such prayers
- An example from Joshua's life about how not to pray
- How asking God to counsel us is important in protecting us from the deception of Satan
- What God grants to us through the exercise of prayer
- How Joshua prays audaciously (sun stopping!)
- The impact of bold praying here and now- both personally and in lives and the world beyond

DISCUSSION AND BIBLE STUDY

Take time to process and discuss your responses to the video.

1. How does Wesley's prayer make you feel? How could your prayers be inspired by this?

2. *"I command thee in the name of God to live because I still have need of thee in the work of reforming the church.... This is my will, and may my will be done, because I seek only to glorify the name of God."* Imagine if you were prayed for in such a way tonight. What is your response to this boldness and confidence in prayer?

Why do we often shy away from prayers like this?

3. **Read Hebrews 4:14-16.** What kind of attitude and outlook does this passage say we should bring to God when we pray?

Why can we be certain? What blocks your boldness?

4. **Read Joshua 9:3-19.** What distracted their prayers for wisdom?

How can we be distracted, and end up missing opportunities to seek the Lord's guidance through prayer? Consider some of the decisions and situations in your own life where members could pray with you and seek the Lord's leading.

CONSULT GOD IN EVERYTHING. ALWAYS. IMMEDIATELY. QUICKLY.

5. Think about a situation where you regret not having prayed for insight and wisdom.

6. **Read Proverbs 3:5-6 and Psalm 27:7-14.** We are in a spiritual battle against the evil one. What do we see here about seeking God's wisdom through prayer? How can we practically do this? Have you experienced God speaking into your life? How did he do it and how did you respond?

7. **Read Joshua 10:7-14.** Joshua prayed for the 'impossible' and discovered that with God, all things really are possible. What is a big prayer- a huge prayer, an impossible prayer- that you don't dare lift up to God? If you are willing, invite your group members to join you in praying for this, even if you are still fearful of praying for it.

AS YOU FACE YOUR BATTLES, RESPOND IN PRAYER- HONEST, CONTINUAL AND AUDACIOUS PRAYER

8. There is power when we pray together with other believers, joining our voices and faith together. Make notes and commit yourselves to engage in prayer for each other over the incoming weeks

