

## **Introduction: A prayer I will never forget.**

- Haiti – 1982
  
- A jungle compound – “hospital of pain.”
  
- The professor had a “secret weapon of power.”

## **Practice: Pray GREAT Prayers!**

*<sup>23</sup>In that day you will no longer ask Me anything. I tell you the truth, My Father will give you whatever you ask in My name. <sup>24</sup>Until now you have not asked for anything in My name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.*

John 16:23-24 (NIV)

## Five Characteristics of Great Prayers:

### 1. Great prayers are deeply \_\_\_\_\_.

- Great prayers begin and end with God, Himself.

#### Examples:

- Moses Exodus 33:17-19
- David Psalm 27:4
- Paul Philippians 3:8-10
- Jesus John 17:3

#### Jesus' teaching:

*"Our Father" – Abba Father* Matthew 6:9 (NASB)

### 2. Great prayers are birthed in \_\_\_\_\_.

- Great prayers reflect our desperate dependency on Him.

#### Examples:

- Moses Exodus 4:11-12
- David Psalm 51:16-17
- Nehemiah Nehemiah 1:3-4
- Isaiah 6

#### Jesus' teaching:

*"Who is in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name."* Matthew 6:9 (NASB)

3. Great prayers \_\_\_\_\_ God's agenda.

- Great prayers are prayed by people who understand God's agenda for His world.

**Examples:**

- Moses Exodus 32:9-14
- Nehemiah Nehemiah 1:10-11
- Solomon 1 Kings 3:7-14

**Jesus' teaching:**

*"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."*

Matthew 6:10(NASB)

4. Great Prayers take God \_\_\_\_\_.

- Great prayers are promise centered, not problem centered.

**Examples:**

- Moses
- Nehemiah Nehemiah 1:6-9
- David Psalm 103:6-10
- Paul Philippians 1, Ephesians 1, Colossians 1

**Jesus' teaching:**

*"Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."*

Matthew 6:11-12 (NASB)

5. Great prayers demand great \_\_\_\_\_! Why?

- They are **DANGEROUS!**
- They boldly demand of God that He live up to His character.

**Examples:**

- Abraham Genesis 18
- Moses Exodus 32

- They dare to stand in the gap becoming the answer to the prayer if God wills it.

**Examples:**

Ezekiel 22:30-31

- Esther
- Nehemiah
- Jesus

**Jesus' teaching:**

*"For Thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever!" Amen.*

Matthew 6:13b

**Summary:** Great prayers ask the **improbable**, expect the **impossible**, and receive the **unthinkable** because of Jesus.

- Because of Jesus' **command**, we boldly ask the **improbable**. Matthew 7:7-8
- Because of Jesus' **promise**, we expect the **impossible**. John 16:24
- Because of Jesus' **power**, we receive the **unthinkable**. Ephesians 3:20