

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

Your Prayers Have Power

Chapter 5 Unshakable Hope
October 24, 2021

Praying With A Purpose

James 5:16-18

Elijah's Story





‘And as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he married Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.’

1 Kings 16:31

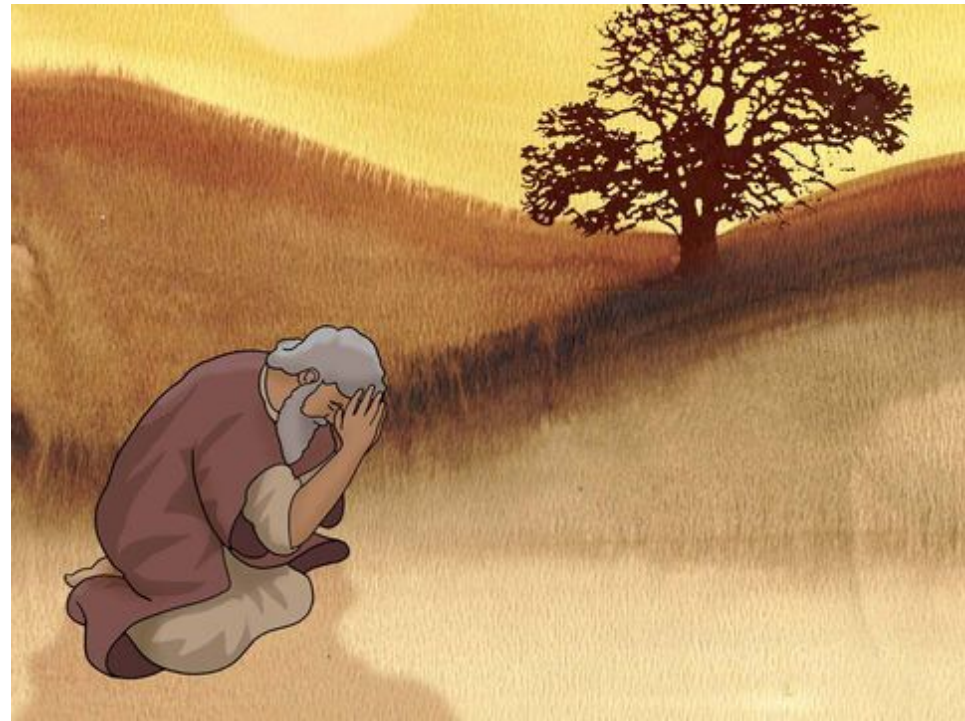
‘Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria for twenty-two years. Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord more than all who were before him.’

1 Kings 16:29-30

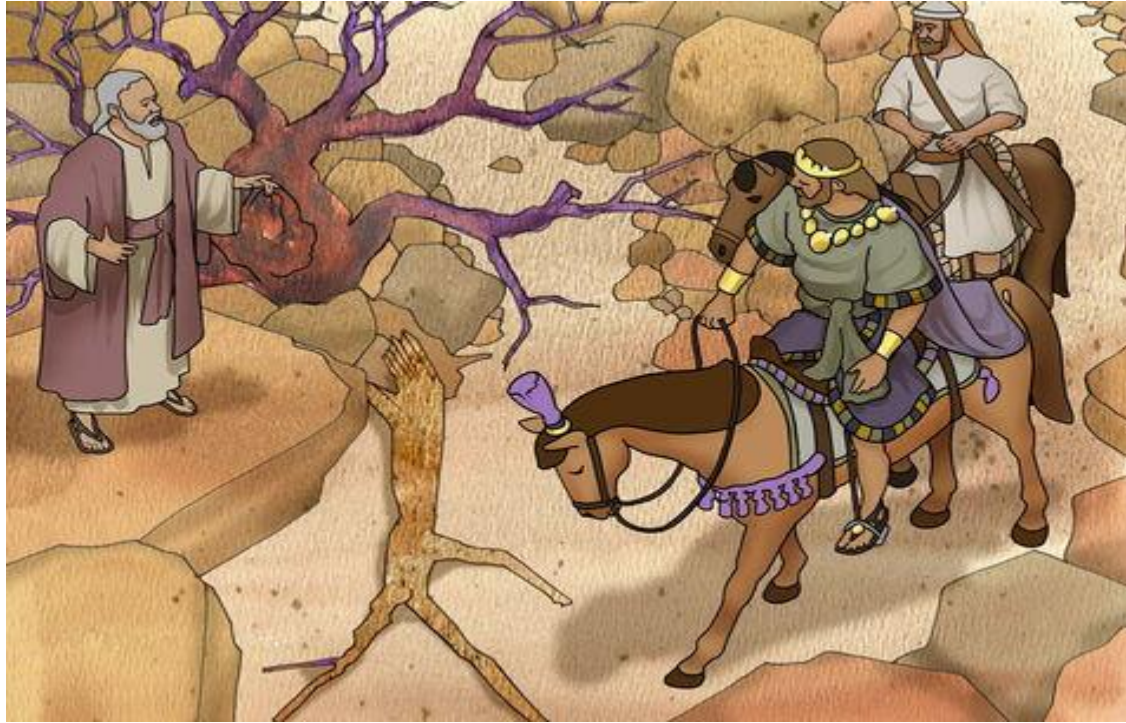


Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was one of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall certainly be neither dew nor rain during these years, except by my word."

1 Kings 17:1



As Elijah prophesied, there was no rain for three years. 'Now it happened after many days that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, "Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will provide rain on the face of the earth.'" 1 Kings 18:1



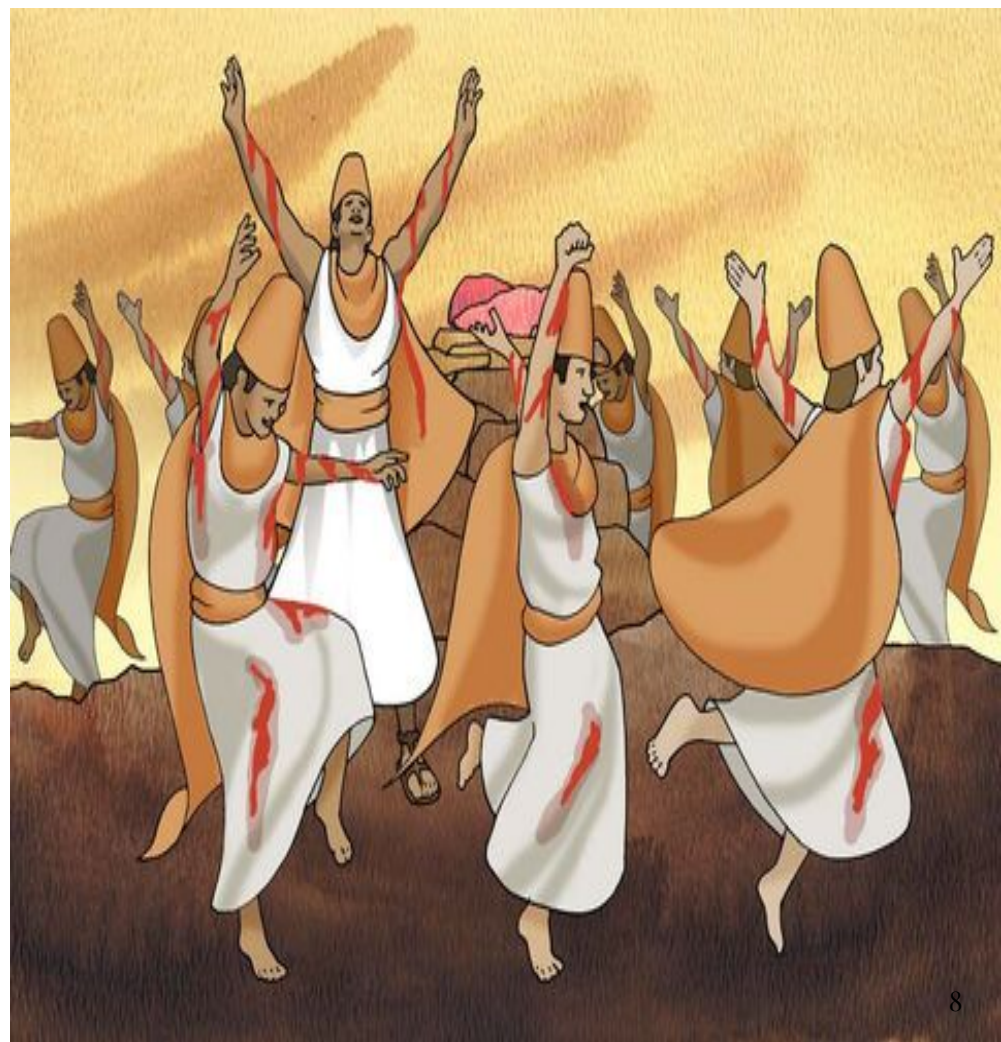
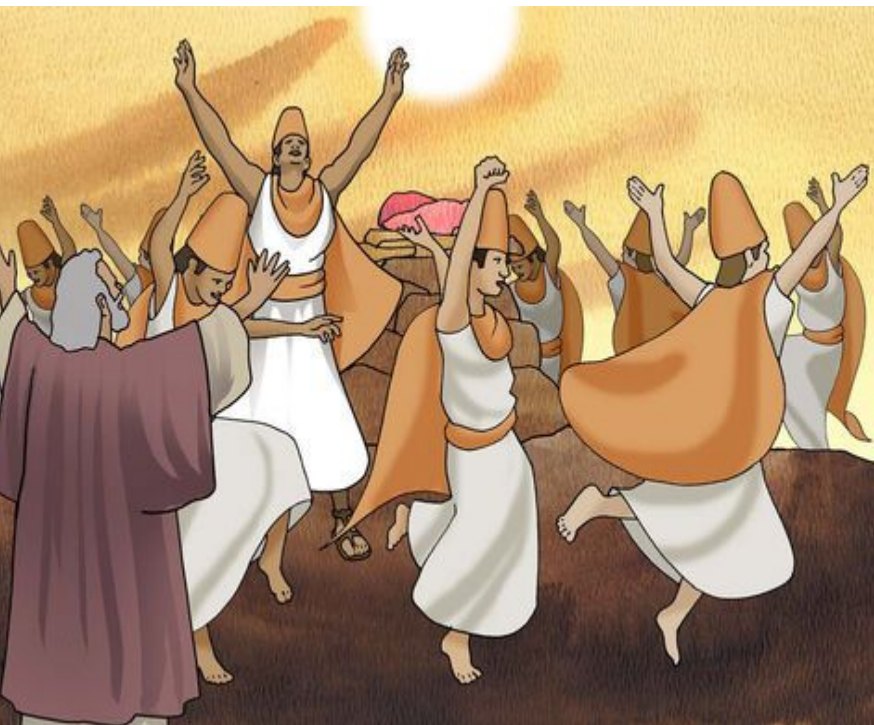
When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, “Is this you, the cause of disaster to Israel?”
Elijah said, “I have not brought disaster to Israel, but you and your father’s house have, because you have abandoned the commandments of the Lord and you have followed the Baals. Now then, send orders and gather to me all Israel at Mount Carmel, together with 450 prophets of Baal and four hundred prophets of the Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.’ 1 Kings 18:17-19



So Ahab sent orders among all the sons of Israel and brought the prophets together at Mount Carmel. Then Elijah approached all the people and said, “How long are you going to struggle with the two choices? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.” But the people did not answer him so much as a word.’
1 Kings 18:20-21



The priest of Baal built their altar, chose their ox, sacrificed it and placed it on the altar. Then ‘they called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, “O Baal, answer us!” But there was no voice and no one answered.’” 1 Kings 18:26







Why do you think that Elijah set up this elaborate public display?

How did God go above and beyond Elijah's request in front of these prophets?

Why do you think that Elijah was so confident that rain was coming?

James 5 closes out the letter by encouraging those who believe in God to show it. This is most readily shown by *praying* in response to every circumstance. We should pray for ourselves, praise God, and invite the spiritual leaders of our churches to pray for us when we are sick, or spiritually weak. Healing will follow; sins will be forgiven. We should confess sins to each other so we can pray for strength for each other to overcome sin. Prayer works; God hears and responds. If we really believe this is true, our behavior will reflect it.

Praying With A Purpose

James 5:16-18



1 Peter 3:12 NIV

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.

1 John 5:14-15 NIV

14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. **15** And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

**WE ARE MADE RIGHT WITH
GOD BY PLACING OUR FAITH
IN JESUS CHRIST. AND THIS
IS TRUE FOR EVERYONE WHO
BELIEVES, NO MATTER WHO
WE ARE.**

ROMANS 3:22

But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon.

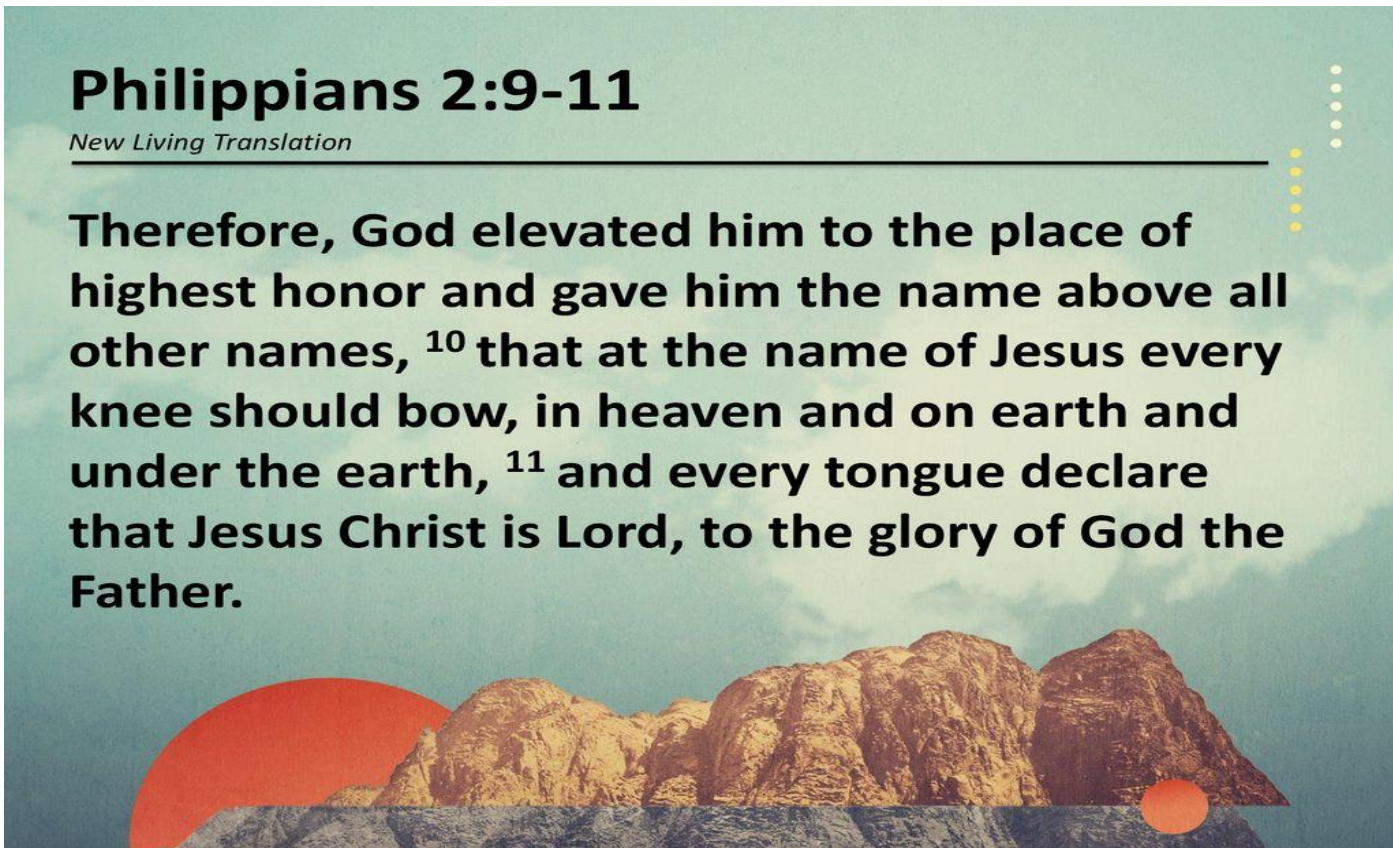


There is Power in Praying in the Name of Jesus

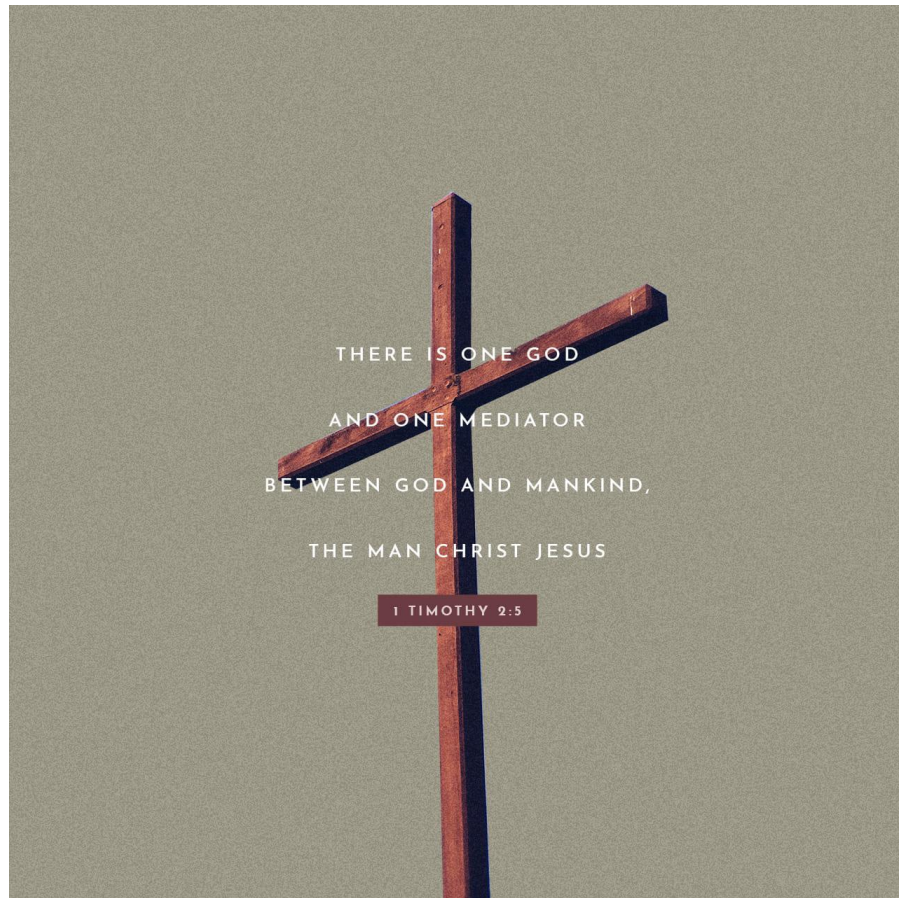
Philippians 2:9-11

New Living Translation

Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



Jesus, Our Mediator, in Whose Name We Pray



John 14:6 ESV

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Acts 4:12 ESV

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

John 14:13-14 ESV

Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Praying in the Name of Jesus

Ephesians 3:20



When We Do Not Know What To Pray For

Romans 8:26-27

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.



The Lord is my portion

My Maker, Husband	Isa 54:5
My Well-beloved	Sgs 1:13
My Saviour	2Pe 3:18
My Hope	1Ti 1:1
My Brother	Mar 3:35
My Portion	Jer 10:16
My Helper	Hbr 13:6
My Physician	Jer 8:22
My Healer	Luk 9:11
My Refiner	Mal 3:3
My Purifier	Mal 3:3
My Lord, Master	Jhn 13:13
My Servant	Luk 12:37
My Example	Jhn 13:15
My Teacher	Jhn 3:2

My Shepherd	Psa 23:1
My Keeper	Jhn 17:12
My Feeder	Eze 34:23
My Leader	Isa 40:11
My Restorer	Psa 23:3
My Resting-place	Jer 50:6
My Meat (his flesh)	Jhn 6:55
My Drink (his blood)	Jhn 6:55
My Passover	1Cr 5:7
My Peace	Eph 2:14
My Wisdom	1Cr 1:30
My Righteousness	1Cr 1:30
My Sanctification	1Cr 1:30
My Redemption	1Cr 1:30
My All in All	Col 3:11

You can never learn that
Christ is all you need,
until Christ is all you have.

Corrie ten Boom