

## WHEN YOU PRAY

Pray Bold and Humble

March 29, 2026

### Message Summary.

Prayer works, even when it doesn't come naturally. In Scripture, we see that prayer can change outcomes, even as God continues to accomplish His greater plan. God invites us into the details through prayer, not because we control the power, but because He does.

Effective prayer is persistent, rooted in a right relationship with God, and marked by both boldness and humility. As we seek Him, we're invited to pray big, trust deeply, and watch Him move in ways beyond what we can imagine.

### Key Scripture Summaries.

**Exodus 32:9-14** | Moses intercedes for Israel after their sin with the golden calf. God "relents," showing that prayer can impact outcomes within His sovereign plan.

**2 Kings 20:1-6** | King Hezekiah prays after being told he will die. God hears and extends his life for 15 years.

**Acts 12:5-16** | The church prays for Peter while he is imprisoned. God miraculously frees him, even though the believers struggle to believe it's happened.

**Luke 18:10-14** | Jesus contrasts prideful and humble prayer, showing that God honors humility over self-righteousness.

### Start Talking.

1. Where would you say prayer currently fits into your daily life (natural rhythm or constant struggle)?
2. When you hear "pray big," what emotions or thoughts come up for you?
3. Who is someone in your life who has prayed boldly for you?

### Start Thinking.

- What stands out most about Moses' prayer changing the outcome in Exodus 32?
- How do you reconcile the tension between "God is in control" and "prayer changes things"?
- Why do you think persistence is important in prayer?
- What is the difference between praying boldly and praying arrogantly?

- Why does being "right with God" matter when it comes to prayer?



### Start Sharing.

1. Share about a time when you prayed and saw God move, either how you expected or differently than expected.
2. Have you ever struggled to believe your own prayers, as the people in Acts 12 did? What did that look like?
3. Where are you currently tempted to give up praying?
4. Is there something big you've been hesitant to ask God for?

### Start Praying.

*God, You are powerful and able to do more than we imagine. Teach us to pray boldly, humbly, and persistently. Help us trust You in every outcome. Search our hearts and strengthen our faith. In Jesus' name, amen.*

### Start Doing.

Choose a few to practice this week:

- Show up daily. Pick a consistent time and place to pray each day this week.
- Pray big. Write down one bold prayer request you've been afraid to ask, and begin praying it daily.
- Stay persistent. Set a reminder to pray for the same request multiple times each day.
- Get right with God. Spend time confessing sin and asking God to realign your heart with His.
- Pray for someone else. Identify one person (your "One") and pray boldly for their life and faith.
- Practice bold and humble prayer. Each day, intentionally approach God with confidence and surrender.