



LESSON 8 // BE A PRAY-ER

Big Idea: One of the most important lessons from the life of Abraham about leaving a legacy is the value of being a pray-er. We learn from Abraham that prayer shapes the future. We also learn that there's a right way to pray, and that we should pray with confidence and persistence, trusting God's answers.

Genesis 18:25-26 (NIV) *"Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?" 26 The Lord said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." 32 Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?" He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it."*

James 5:16b (NLT) *The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.*

John 15:7-8 (NIV) *If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

1 John 5:14-15 (NLT) *And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. 15 And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.*

Luke 18:1 (NLT) *One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.*

Start Talking:

What would you say to someone who claims that prayer doesn't matter and makes no difference?

Start Thinking:

Read Genesis 18:25-32. In these verses, how did Abraham's conversation with God (prayer) help "shape the future"? How does this encourage you about what's possible when you pray?

Read James 5:16. Why is a right relationship with God through Jesus (being a "righteous person" as James describes it) essential if we want to see "great power" and "wonderful results" in prayer?

Read John 15:7-8. What role does God's Word play in effective prayer?

Read Luke 18:1 and 1 John 5:14-15. Why is it so important to pray with confidence and persistence as believers in Jesus?

Start Praying and Doing:

Based on John 15:7-8 and James 5:16, believe that your prayers can be "powerful and effective" because you are in Christ and His Word is in you! Let this fuel your praying in the days ahead and write down testimonies of the "wonderful results" you see as God answers.