

## PRAYING BOLD PRAYERS

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. With the new year come a lot of “new” resolutions or goals.
- B. Many people will look for ways to make this new year better than the last one by implementing new strategies and ways of living (ex: spend less/save more; eat healthier/exercise more).
- C. What if we made this a year where we prayed bold prayers before God?

**BIG IDEA:** Our bold prayers have the power to change us and others.

### GOD INVITES US TO PRAY BOLD PRAYERS (Heb. 4:16)

- A. We struggle to pray bold prayers because we think God doesn't hear our prayers (1 Pet. 3:12).
- B. We struggle to pray bold prayers because we assume what we are asking is too much (Lk. 1:37).
- C. We struggle to pray bold prayers because we know God is capable of what we are asking (Mt. 7:7-8).

### THREE BOLD PRAYERS TO PRAY THIS NEW YEAR

- A. Lord, help me to speak the truth no matter the potential threat (Acts 4:17-31).
  - 1. The early Christians prayed for God to help them speak His word with boldness rather than to change their circumstances.
  - 2. Phillips Brooks said, “Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be strong men and women.”
- B. Lord, help me to forgive those who have hurt me (Acts 7:54-60).
  - 1. Stephen prayed for those who were doing him harm and taking his life.
  - 2. Forgiveness is a command, not a suggestion.
- C. Lord, help me to think less of myself and more of others (Acts 12:1-12).
  - 1. Many believers continued praying for Peter for several days after he was placed in prison.
  - 2. Too often our prayers are about us or things that would somehow benefit us.

### CONCLUSION:

- A. The prayers we pray have the power to do much good (Jam. 5:16).
- B. Let's stop praying simple prayers and start praying bold prayers that reflect our faith in the power of God.
- C. Make a goal this year to pray bold prayers before God.