LIFE IN THE WORD SERIES

BE SPECIFIC!

(PRAYING WITH PRECISION)

SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2026

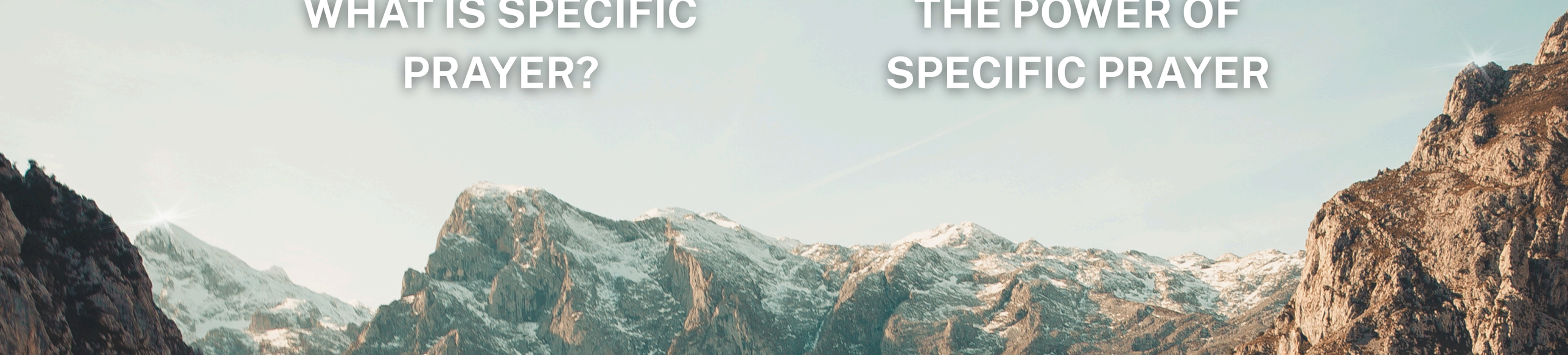
QUICK REVIEW:

LESSON ONE:

WHAT IS SPECIFIC PRAYER?

LESSON TWO:

THE POWER OF SPECIFIC PRAYER



LESSON THREE:

THE IMPORTANCE OF SPECIFIC PRAYER



SCRIPTURE LESSON:

MARK 10:49-52



THEN THEY CALLED THE BLIND MAN, SAYING TO HIM, “BE OF GOOD CHEER. RISE, HE IS CALLING YOU.” AND THROWING ASIDE HIS GARMENT, HE ROSE AND CAME TO JESUS. SO, JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID TO HIM, “WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO FOR YOU?

THE BLIND MAN SAID TO HIM, RABBONI, THAT I MAY RECEIVE MY SIGHT.” THEN JESUS SAID TO HIM, “GO YOUR WAY; YOUR FAITH HAS MADE YOU WELL.” AND IMMEDIATELY HE RECEIVED HIS SIGHT AND FOLLOWED JESUS ON THE ROAD.”

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

MARK 10:49-52



SPECIFIC PRAYER TAKES MORE TIME AND EFFORT, BUT IT IS BETTER FOR US AS IT TRAINS OUR “PRAYER MUSCLES” AND IT IS MORE HONORING TO GOD WHEN WE’RE SPECIFIC.

FIVE EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC PRAYERS IN THE BIBLE:

1. ISAAC PRAYED SPECIFICALLY

GENESIS 25:21-23

GENESIS 25:21

NOW ISAAC PLEADED (PRAYED) WITH THE LORD FOR HIS WIFE, BECAUSE SHE WAS BARREN; AND THE LORD GRANTED HIS PLEA (PRAYER REQUEST), AND REBEKAH HIS WIFE CONCEIVED.

THREE IMPORTANT DETAILS

CONCERNING HIS PRAYER:

1. IT WAS A LONG WAIT.

2. IT WAS A CARING PRAYER.

3. REBEKAH HAD TWINS.

2. HEZEKIAH PRAYED SPECIFICALLY

II KINGS 20:2-5

HEZEKIAH TURNED HIS FACE TO THE WALL AND PRAYED TO THE LORD, “REMEMBER, LORD, HOW I HAVE WALKED BEFORE YOU FAITHFULLY AND WITH WHOLEHEARTED DEVOTION AND HAVE DONE WHAT IS GOOD IN YOUR EYES.” AND HEZEKIAH WEPT BITTERLY.

BEFORE ISAIAH HAD LEFT THE MIDDLE COURT, THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO HIM: “GO BACK AND TELL HEZEKIAH, THE RULER OF MY PEOPLE, ‘THIS IS WHAT THE LORD, THE GOD OF YOUR FATHER DAVID, SAYS: I HAVE HEARD YOUR PRAYER AND SEEN YOUR TEARS; I WILL HEAL YOU.”

NOTICED HOW GOD ANSWERED

HEZEKIAH:

1. GOD ACTED FAST.

2. GOD LISTENED.

3. GOD HEALED HIM.

3. ELIJAH PRAYED SPECIFICALLY

JAMES 5:17-18

ELIJAH WAS AS COMPLETELY HUMAN AS WE ARE, AND YET WHEN HE PRAYED EARNESTLY THAT NO RAIN WOULD FALL, NONE FELL FOR THE NEXT THREE AND A HALF YEARS!

THEN HE PRAYED AGAIN, THIS TIME THAT IT WOULD RAIN, AND DOWN IT POURED, AND THE GRASS TURNED GREEN AND THE GARDENS BEGAN TO GROW AGAIN.

TWO LESSONS REGARDING ELIJAH'S PRAYER:

1. GOD ANSWERS THE PRAYERS OF ORDINARY PEOPLE.

2. GOD RESPONDS TO SPECIFIC REQUESTS.

4. PAUL PRAYED SPECIFICALLY

PHILIPPIANS 1:3-5

EVERY TIME YOU CROSS MY MIND, I BREAK OUT IN EXCLAMATIONS OF THANKS TO GOD. EACH EXCLAMATION IS A TRIGGER TO PRAYER. I FIND MYSELF PRAYING FOR YOU WITH A GLAD HEART.

I AM SO PLEASED THAT YOU HAVE CONTINUED ON IN THIS WITH US, BELIEVING AND PROCLAIMING GOD'S MESSAGE, FROM THE DAY YOU HEARD IT RIGHT UP TO THE PRESENT.

THREE LESSONS FOR DAILY PRAYER:

1. BE SPECIFIC

2. FOCUS ON FELLOWSHIP

3. MAINTAIN GLADNESS

5. JESUS PRAYED SPECIFICALLY

JOHN 17:11

NOW I AM DEPARTING FROM THE WORLD; THEY ARE STAYING IN THIS WORLD, BUT I AM COMING TO YOU. HOLY FATHER, YOU HAVE GIVEN ME YOUR NAME; NOW PROTECT THEM BY THE POWER OF YOUR NAME SO THAT THEY WILL BE UNITED JUST AS WE ARE.

TWO ASPECTS OF HIS PRAYER:

1. PROTECTION

2. UNITY

FOUR ADVANTAGES OF PRAYING SPECIFICALLY:

1. PRAYING FOR SPECIFIC NEEDS CLARIFIES OUR MINDS.

"GOD SPEAKS IN THE SILENCE OF THE HEART. LISTENING IS THE BEGINNING OF PRAYER".

MOTHER TERESA

2. PRAYING FOR SPECIFIC NEEDS EMPHASIZES OUR DEPENDENCE ON AND INTIMACY WITH GOD.

"TO PRAY IS TO ACCEPT THAT WE ARE, AND ALWAYS WILL BE, WHOLLY DEPENDENT ON GOD FOR EVERYTHING."

TIMOTHY KELLER

"REAL PRAYER IS COMMUNION WITH GOD, SO THAT THERE WILL BE COMMON THOUGHTS BETWEEN HIS MIND AND OURS."

GEORGE MACDONALD

3. PRAYING FOR SPECIFIC NEEDS MAKES US MORE ALERT TO ANSWERS.

"WHEN YOU ARE IN THE DARK, LISTEN, AND GOD WILL GIVE YOU A VERY PRECIOUS MESSAGE."

OSWALD CHAMBERS

4. PRAYING FOR SPECIFIC NEEDS INCREASES OUR FAITH.

“WE HAVE TO PRAY WITH OUR EYES ON GOD, NOT ON THE DIFFICULTIES.”

OSWALD CHAMBERS

THREE REASONS WHY SPECIFIC PRAYER GROWS FAITH:

1. IT SHIFTS OUR FOCUS.

2. IT BUILDS HABIT.

3. IT DEEPENS RELIANCE.

COLOSSIANS 1:9-10

“WE HAVE NOT CEASED TO PRAY FOR YOU AND TO ASK THAT YOU BE FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL IN ALL SPIRITUAL WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING, SO THAT YOU WILL WALK IN A MANNER WORTHY OF THE LORD, TO PLEASE HIM IN ALL RESPECTS, BEARING FRUIT IN EVERY GOOD WORK AND INCREASING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD... "

FOUR DETAILS:

1. BE FILLED WITH KNOWLEDGE

2. WALK WORTHY

3. PLEASE THE LORD

4. BEAR FRUIT

THERE IS A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAYING PRAYERS AND PRAYING.

FOLLOW UP CHAT QUESTIONS:

1. WHAT SPECIFIC SITUATION OR NEED ARE YOU PRAYING ABOUT TODAY?

2. DO YOU RECORD GOD'S ANSWERS TO PRAYER? EXPLAIN.

3. ARE MOST OF YOUR PRAYERS GENERAL OR SPECIFIC?

4. WHAT RESONATED MOST ABOUT TODAY'S LESSON AND WHY?

5. HOW CAN YOU APPLY TODAY'S LESSON TO YOUR LIFE?