



GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
Fall Quarter - Lesson 4 - Week of October 5, 2025
Lesson: YOUR PRAYERS HAVE POWER!

Bible Verses: I Kings 18:16-46; James 5:16; Matthew 18:19-20; I Thessalonians 5:17; Ephesians 6:18

DISCUSSION

Key Story: Elijah's prayers call down fire from heaven (I Kings 18:16-46).

God's Promise: When a believing Christian prays, wonderful things happen (James 5:16).

My Promise: I will make prayer my priority and passion.

Lesson: Deadlines and decisions are a part of all our lives. Appointments and phone calls fill your calendar. Illnesses and distractions occupy your mind. Responsibilities and requirements steal sleep. You tend to respond to such challenges by rolling up your sleeves, taking a deep breath, and resolving to try harder. When more crises come your way, you roll up your sleeves a little further, grit your teeth, and give it even more effort. It is only when all else has failed and you are in danger that you find yourself saying, "Well, I guess all I can do now is pray." But the truth is that prayer is not the last resort in the life of a Christian, but the first step in any situation. God has power you have never seen and strength you have never known. He knows no limits and can manage every challenge. He is not only available but eager to hear from you. He loves it when his children turn to Him. He cannot wait to listen to your heart.

Now take some time to allow God's promise in James 5:16 to take root in your heart. Begin by preparing your heart in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal truth as you engage God.

1. Read I Kings 18:16-29. Why do you think Elijah set up this elaborate public display? What are some "things" in your life that you have trusted?
2. Read I Kings 18:30-39. Place yourself in this scene. What would you have expected? How would you have responded?
3. How did God go beyond Elijah's request in front of the prophets of Baal?
4. In what ways are you just like Elijah?
5. Read I Kings 18:41-46. Given that Israel had been without rain for years, why do you think Elijah was so confident the rain would be coming?
6. Read Matthew 18:19-20. What are some key truths this passage contains about praying together in community?

Keys to help You Have a More Powerful and Effective Prayer Life:

1. Know to whom you are speaking.
2. Thank God.
3. Ask for God's will.
4. Say what you need.
5. Ask for forgiveness.
6. Pray with a friend.
7. Memorize scripture.

As a believer in Jesus, you carry the power of the Holy Spirit inside of you. Your prayers matter. Your prayers work. Keep praying. Keep standing. Prayer is "powerful" – that is, meaningful and effective only when and because it accesses a relationship with God. The power is not in the person praying, but it is in God. Remember to pray with diligence and trust. Also, believers are encouraged to approach God with confidence and courage.

Prayer Focus: God, help me to believe in the power of prayer and trust Your will for my life.