**Pray First** *\*\*Series Graphic\*\**

Part 1: **Ask**

Part 2: **How Jesus Said to Pray**

Part 3: **How Paul Said to Pray**

**Keep Praying**

"My grandfather rode a camel, my father rode a camel, I ride a Mercedes, my son rides a Land Rover, and my grandson is going to ride a Land Rover…but my great-grandson is going to have to ride a camel again."

-Sheikh Rashid

"Hard times create strong men, strong men create easy times. Easy times create weak men, weak men create difficult times. Many will not understand it, but you have to raise warriors, not parasites."

(2 Chronicles 7:14)

“**if** my people, who are called by my name, will **humble themselves** and **pray** and **seek** my face and **turn** from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will **forgive** their sin and will **heal** their land.”

(1 Chronicles 4:9-10)

“Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, “I gave birth to him in pain.” Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would **bless** me and **enlarge my territory**! Let **your hand be with me** and **keep me from harm** so that I will be **free from pain**.” And God granted his request.”

1. Pray that God will **bless** you.

(Psalm 5:12)

“Surely, Lord, **you bless the righteous**; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.”

Blessing follows **obedience**.

(Genesis 26:12-13 NKJV)

“Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord **blessed** him. The man began to **prosper**, and continued **prospering** until he became very **prosperous**;”

(Genesis 12:2)

“I will make you into a great nation, and **I will bless you**; I will make your name great, and **you will be a blessing**.”

God **wants to bless you** so that **you can be a blessing**.

1. Pray that God will give you **influence**.

(Ephesians 3:20)

“Now to him who is able to **do immeasurably more** than we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,”

 Lord, help me do more than I’m currently doing to make **eternal impact**.

1. Pray that God will **be with you**.

(Acts 11:21)

“The **Lord’s hand was with them**, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.”

(2 Corinthians 3:5)

“Not that we are competent in ourselves, but our competence comes from **God**. He has made us competent as ministers…”

 Lord, be with me because what you’ve asked me to do I cannot do **on my own**.

1. Pray that God will **protect** you.

(1 Peter 5:8)

“Be **alert** and of **sober** mind. Your enemy the **devil prowls around** like a roaring lion looking for someone to **devour**. Resist him, stranding firm in the faith,”

(Psalm 3:3)

“But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high.”

 Lord, **protect me** from whatever may try to deter me from your mission in my life.

(1 Chronicles 4:9-10)

“…Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would **bless** me and **enlarge my territory**! Let **your hand be with me** and **keep me from harm** so that I will be **free from pain**.” And God granted his request.”

**Jabez’s Prayer**: Bless me, give me influence, be with me, protect me and I will live free of pain.