



# PRAY FIRST

## The Presence Of God

Part 2 of a 4 part series

### INTRODUCTION

**1 Chronicles 4:9-10 NIV**, "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."

**The prayer of Jabez is a simple yet profound cry to God.**

It reveals the heart of someone who trusted deeply in God's character and sought His blessings, presence, purpose, and protection. Over the next four weeks, we'll explore each element of this prayer to discover how it applies to our lives and inspires us to grow in faith through intentional, expectant prayer. Let's allow this journey through Scripture to allow God's Word to challenge and transform us.

### AS A CHURCH

As we begin 2025, we as a church are committing to pray and set our expectation on Jesus and what He desires for our church in the year to come. What we do **FIRST** has great significance in the Kingdom of God. We tithe our first, we honour Jesus first, we acknowledge He is our first love and we consult God **FIRST** before we get on with our own plans.

In the life of Jabez, we see the heartfelt prayer of a man who understood the character & nature of God. Similarly, as we pray, we are aligning our desires & expectations with the character & will of Jesus **FIRST** before attempting anything in our strength.

### RESOURCE

We would love to invite you to watch this powerful teaching video about the Prayer Of Jabez, as you go through this study together: [Prayer Of Jabez - Radiant Church: Ps Aaron Burke](#)

### A GROUP STUDY: THE PRESENCE OF GOD

#### Key Verse

**1 Chron 4:10b** says, "Let your hand be with me..."

#### Discovery

The "hand of God" in Scripture symbolizes His presence, power, and guidance. Jabez recognized that true success and security come only when God's hand is actively leading and sustaining us. He didn't want to rely on his own strength; instead, he sought God's constant companionship.

#### Discussion

Starting Question: How often do you consciously invite God's presence into your daily decisions and actions?

Exploring Questions:

1. What does it mean to have the hand of God with you? (Isaiah 41:10)



 GROUPS STUDY

and open our lives to His leading.

**Take a moment now** in your group to pray for each other, for the presence of God to be more tangible in your lives.

**Ask yourself:** Am I walking in step with God, allowing His hand to guide me?

Check out [www.hillsongafrica.com/...](http://www.hillsongafrica.com/...) For more information our our CHURCH WIDE 7 DAY FAST from 19-26 January 2025

Do you have a story or testimony to share? Email us at [stories@hillsong.co.za](mailto:stories@hillsong.co.za)