

Praying for the Impossible

Read: Joshua 10:1-43

Main Idea: Prayer opens the door to God's miraculous power in our lives, enabling us to confront and conquer the seemingly impossible with faith and boldness.

Key Verses: “There has been no day like it before or since, when the LORD heeded the voice of a man, for the LORD fought for Israel.” **(Joshua 10:14)**

Key Principles

- Faithfulness to our commitments often draws opposition rather than ease, so we should not be surprised when doing right invites attack.
- God proves faithful to His promises as we keep faith with the people we have committed to, even when those commitments cost us something.
- Holding the promises of God never excuses us from wise effort, for Joshua still marched all night even though the victory was already assured.
- We can pray with holy boldness when our requests are anchored in God's revealed will rather than in our own selfish desires.
- The wonder of prayer is not that we bend God's hand but that the sovereign Lord stoops to hear the cry of His children.
- Yesterday's defeated enemies are meant to fuel courage for tomorrow's battles instead of lulling us into complacency.

Discussion

1. Where in your life does faithfulness to a commitment feel like it is inviting more opposition than reward? How does Joshua's willingness to rescue the Gibeonites speak into that?
2. What holds you back from praying bold, specific prayers the way Joshua did? What would change if you truly believed God bends His ear to hear you?
3. How can we tell the difference between praying selfishly for what we want and praying boldly for what aligns with God's purposes? What is an example of praying selfishly? What about an example of praying for God's will?
4. What past evidence of God's faithfulness could strengthen your courage for a battle you are facing now, the way the conquered kings assured Israel of victories still to come?
5. How does the sweeping summary that God left no enemy standing shape the way you trust Him with the parts of your life that still feel unconquered?
6. What one seemingly impossible situation will you commit to praying over boldly this week? Who in this group can you ask to pray alongside you?

Prayer

- Pray for God to shape us into a people of audacious prayer who expect the impossible.
- Pray for:
 - This message to call believers to trust and seek the power of a sovereign God.
 - Courage to keep costly commitments even when faithfulness invites opposition.
 - A bold gospel witness toward those who are still far from Christ.

Praying for the Impossible

Joshua 10

- I. Confront the threat of overwhelming odds. 10:1-5**
 - 1. Recognize that faithfulness invites opposition. 10:1-3
 - 2. Remain firm when enemies arise. 10:4-5
- II. Channel the power of bold prayer. 10:6-14**
 - 1. March forward on God's word. 10:6-8
 - 2. Pray confidently in God's strength. 10:9-14
- III. Claim the promise of certain victory. 10:15-27**
 - 1. Pursue His promise. 10:15-19
 - 2. Complete His work. 10:20-24
 - 3. Declare His supremacy. 10:25-27
- IV. Celebrate the scope of God's faithfulness. 10:28-43**
 - 1. Trust in His power. 10:28-39
 - 2. Rest in His sufficiency. 10:40-43

NEXT WEEK:
Waging Peace
Joshua 11