

# Knee Deep

## The Power of Prayer | Week 3

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Jesus makes radical claims about how God will answer prayers “in faith.” James uses the prophet, Elijah, as a model for how God can respond to our prayers. God wants us to approach him boldly, but how does it work?

### THIS WEEK

#### Memorize: James 5:16

*Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.*

#### September Action Step

Ask someone how you can pray for them. Pray for them regularly. Follow up in a week to see how they are doing.

### MONDAY: Jesus on Prayer

1. Jesus says if you have “faith as a mustard seed,” you can move mountains. NIV adds the words “as small as”. What implication does each make?
2. Some say if your prayer is not answered, you don’t have enough faith. Do you think this is true? How much do you think answers to your prayers depend on you (or your faith), or God?

**Reading Plan:** 1 Kings 18-19

### TUESDAY: Elijah

1. Read 1 Kgs 18:36-38. Elijah prayed boldly. Have you ever tried to pray like Elijah? What happened? If not, why not?
2. List what Elijah prays for. How can you model your prayer life off this prayer?

**Reading Plan:** Psalm 9

### WEDNESDAY: Powerful and Effective

1. James 5 says prayer is powerful and effective and implies that what God did through Elijah he can do through you. When have you seen this? When do you struggle to believe it?
2. As our faith grows, how can our prayers get bolder? As your faith has grown, how have your prayers gotten bolder? Or have they?

**Reading Plan:** Psalm 10

### THURSDAY: God’s Power and Gifts

1. Elijah doesn’t actually pray for a miracle, but he expects one. How specific do you get with God? To what degree do you expect God to decisively act?
2. Describe a time God has answered your prayer. Under what circumstances and to what effect?

**Reading Plan:** Psalm 11

### FRIDAY: Persistence & Patience

1. When have you asked for something and did not get the answer you were looking for? How did you deal with that?
2. Read 1 Kgs 18:41-44. This time, Elijah’s prayer is not answered right away. How persistent are you, and when is it appropriate to stop praying?

**Reading Plan:** Psalm 12