

# THE PRAYER OF JABEZ

*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 CHRONICLES 4:10**

The Prayer of Jabez is a helpful model of a prayer we can pray every day.

## 01. BLESSING

Jabez begins his prayer by asking God for His blessing. We need more of God’s blessing to be better equipped to make a difference for His Kingdom. We need more provision, more spiritual gifting, more wisdom, so that we can bless others with what God has given us. James 4:2-3 tells us, “You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.” God wants to bless us, but He is often waiting for us to ask with the right heart. We have a big God, and we can be bold in asking for His blessing. As James points out, God sees our heart, and when we ask for blessing with the motivation not only to help ourselves but to help others, this gets His attention.

*“Oh, that You would bless me...” 1 CHRONICLES 4:10*

Ask God for His blessing. Recognise your need for His provision, and set your heart toward wanting more than you need so that you can be a blessing to others.

## 02. INFLUENCE

Next, Jabez asks for more influence. As God’s blessings increase in our lives, we ask for and experience greater opportunity to influence the world around us for Him. God has the power to bless us greatly, and He also has the power to open doors of opportunity for us to make a difference. We want to walk through doors that only He can open, and He responds when we specifically ask Him to give us more influence for His Name.

*“Enlarge my territory...”* **1 CHRONICLES 4:10**

Pray for more influence. Knowing that God can make a way, trust in Him to open doors and lead you on the best path for your life and for His glory.

### **03. PRESENCE**

In order to have lasting influence, we need God’s presence in our lives. Through His power at work within us, God can do more than we could ever ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). As we ask for blessing and influence, we also need to ask for His presence as Jabez did so that we are not operating out of our own strength but through the presence and the hand of our Almighty God.

*“Let Your hand be with me...”* **1 CHRONICLES 4:10**

In humility, acknowledge your need for God’s presence. Depend on Him and ask for more of Him in your life today.

### **04. PROTECTION**

Finally, Jabez asks the Lord to protect him. If we are influencing the world for Jesus, we must understand the enemy will try to stop us. This leads us to pray that God will not only help us if the enemy attacks, but that He will protect us from the enemy attacking us in the first place. Jesus has already won the victory so we don’t need to fear destruction. God promises to be with us and protect us, and because He is with us we have nothing to fear.

*“Keep me from harm”* **1 CHRONICLES 4:10**

Trust God to protect you. Tell Him specific areas where you feel the need for His protection and ask Him to cover areas that you can’t yet see.

**ALL OF THESE MODELS CAN RELATE TO YOU INDIVIDUALLY, YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, BELIEVERS, NOT-YET BELIEVERS, ALL OF THE ABOVE. SIMPLY PLACE THE NAME(S) OF THOSE YOU ARE PRAYING FOR INTO YOUR PRAYERS.**