# Stones

A SERIES ON THE PROMISES OF PRAYER

#### MAN SPEAKS & GOD HEARS



# Prayer Defined

- Prayer is abundant in Scripture
- Prayer is "speaking in God's presence"
  - Requires relationship
  - Requires humility
  - Requires worship
  - Requires transparency
  - Requires trust
- Prayer is personal and vulnerable

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#### Prayer is Effective

- Prayer should be our first reaction (James 5.13-18)
  - Suffering pray
  - Rejoice pray (in song)
  - Sick pray with elders
- Prayer leads to solutions
  - Physical solutions
  - Spiritual solutions
- "The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful in its effect."

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### Elijah's Prayer

- Elijah prays for a drought (1 Kng 17.1)
- God promises to send rain again (1 Kng 18.1-2)
- Elijah prays for rain (1 Kng 18.41-46)





# Praying Like Elijah

- Elijah did nothing supernatural in this prayer
  - He prayed for no rain
  - He prayed for rain
  - He trusted in God's promises
- We are to pray with the same trust
  - Prayer is not powerful
  - The God that answers prayers is powerful





#### The Pattern of Scripture

- All great prayer warriors trusted in their God
- Almost every time man spoke to God, God would hear their prayers
- There are 3 times in Scripture when God does not hear prayers
- God will not hear our prayers if we are holding on to our sin (Ps 66.16-20)





## God's Desire in Prayer

- God does not need us to pray (Ps 139)
- God desires for us to pray (Pro 15.8)
- God desires to answers our prayers (Mat 7.7-11)

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