

LEVEL II

MY POWER

PRAYER

OBJECTIVES

1

You will learn to create a prayer list, jar, or journal.

2

You will discover a prayer pattern for praying through God's Word.

3

You will learn to patiently wait on God for answers to your prayers.

WORD SKETCH

Communication with and/or making a petition to God

Origin—Middle English, from Anglo-French priere, priere, priere • First known use: 14th century



ABIDE—linger with, be around someone enough to know them well



ASK—to make a request of



ACCESS—permission or the right to make use of something

ANCIENT TEXT

Challenge a friend to see who can text the following verse the fastest.

The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with. Elijah, for instance, human just like us, prayed hard that it wouldn't rain, and it didn't—not a drop for three and a half years. Then he prayed that it would rain, and it did. The showers came and everything started growing again. —**JAMES 5:16**

TRANSLATE

(Write it in your own words.)

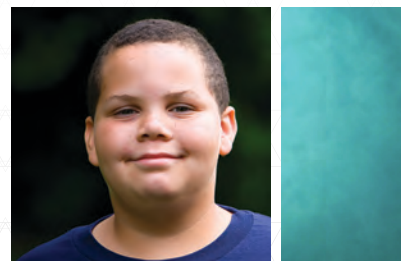
DEFINE

(What does it mean?)



RENDERING

Prayer is a kingdom teen's primary weapon of warfare. With it, you can touch heaven and change earth. The secret to prayer is not in how long you pray or in using fancy words to pray; it's in discovering God's will and then asking for it. To put prayer last is to put God last. To put prayer first is to put God first.





Q2P

1. *Prayer* is earthly permission for heavenly interference. Have you prayed for something and those things you prayed for weren't granted (or answered)? Did you stop praying because your prayers weren't answered? List the reasons or explain why you stopped praying.
2. Evaluate your experience with prayer. Do you think God has answered your prayers? How do you know if your prayers were answered or weren't answered? Explain your answers.
3. Describe three benefits of praying, using Bible verses as prompts.

J4F

Make a prayer jar. (You could also use a journal.) Find a jar and decorate it. At the beginning of each day, write a simple prayer on a slip of paper about the size of a Chinese-cookie fortune. The prayer can be whatever you want to tell God, or it can be a request you have. Offer up this prayer to God, and then place the paper in your jar. At the end of the week, reread the prayer requests and see how the Lord has heard your prayers and responded.

H2H

Sometimes car dealerships mail out car keys and letters to thousands of people. The letter says to come to the car dealership and put your key in the ignition of a brand-new car. If the car starts, you win it! But if it doesn't start, you might as well throw the key away.

Prayer is like a key. When it's the right key in the right car, amazing things can happen. However, many people don't know how to use this key. They feel as if prayer doesn't work for them, so they throw it away. Maybe it's like they tried using their key to start the wrong car or open a locker at school. Since nothing happened, they assumed the key wasn't worth much anyhow.

However, God has given us the secret to the power of prayer. He's made it clear that the secret to having this prayer key work is Jesus Christ. He is the ignition. Listen to what Jesus says: "If you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon" (John 15:7).

In case you didn't understand what He meant in that verse, read this one: "From now on, whatever you request along the lines of who I am and what I am doing, I'll do it. That's how the Father will be seen for who he is in the Son. I mean it. Whatever you request in this way, I'll do" (John 14:13).

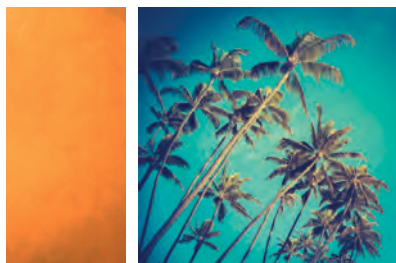
He means it. Whatever you ask for—when it matches with His character and biblical truth, and will bring the most glory to His name—He'll do it. The secret to accessing the power of this kingdom key is not in the number of minutes you spend praying or whether you pray with your eyes open or shut. The secret is in hanging out (abiding) with Jesus, allowing His Word to remain in your heart, and asking for things He wants you to do, have, be, and become.

If you place this kingdom key in the ignition (power) of Jesus Christ and follow what He's doing, where He's going, and what He wants you to do . . . then you win. He will open the door (Matthew 7:7, NIV). He will send the rain (James 5:16–18). He will part the sea (Hebrews 11:29). He will show you the way.

God can't stand pious poses, but he delights in genuine **PRAYERS.**

—Proverbs 15:8





1020

Pray using Bible verses as a guide. Select Bible verses to turn into prayers. This is called *praying Scripture*. Here's one example—the verse is from Matthew 25:45: “He will answer them, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you failed to do one of these things to someone who was being overlooked or ignored, that was me—you failed to do it to me.’” Turn this verse into a prayer like this: *God help me to reach out to those being overlooked or ignored in my world and to treat them as Your loved children.* Or select a psalm as an inspiration for prayer, such as Psalm 63. Consider taking the Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9–13) and writing your own translation that reflects what is on your heart and the specific needs, goals, and questions you have.

Give thanks. On a single sheet of paper or in a journal, list things in your life or in the world for which you are thankful. Write all over the page—create a word cloud—and, if you are feeling artistic, doodle images of the things you are thankful for today.

Wait. When you order something online and are waiting for it to arrive, are you worried it’s not going to come? Do you go back to the online store and order again? Or if you’re at a fast-food restaurant and give the cashier your order, do you keep telling the cashier over and over what you ordered while you wait? No, when you order it, you wait for it to come. This is because you’re trusting and expecting it to come. The secret to living a life with the power of prayer is in knowing what to ask. Jesus says that if you ask anything that is in line with God’s will, He will do it. Anything! List some things that you know are in line with God’s will. Here are two powerful requests to start with: asking God to give you wisdom and asking God to reveal His purposes to you for your life.



KINGDOM KEY 5

GOD'S WORD

OBJECTIVES

1

You will learn a formula (using the acronym REAP) for understanding God's Word.

2

You will practice reading God's Word and interpreting it to apply to your own life.

3

You will memorize key Scriptures.

WORD SKETCH

Sacred writings found in the Old and New Testament, the books of the Bible

Origin—Middle English, from Late Latin scriptura • First known use: 14th century

GOD'S WORD

////// **INSPIRED**—having a divine cause or influence

////// **TRUTH**—fidelity to an original or to a standard, the real facts about something

////// **POWERFUL**—having a strong effect on someone or something

ANCIENT TEXT

Challenge a friend to memorize a verse in under three minutes. Call the friend and see if he or she can recite it from memory.

There's nothing like the written Word of God for showing you the way to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us. —**2 TIMOTHY 3:16**

God means what he says. What he says goes. His powerful Word is sharp as a surgeon's scalpel, cutting through everything, whether doubt or defense, laying us open to listen and obey. —**HEBREWS 4:12**

TRANSLATE

(Write it in your own words.)

DEFINE

(What does it mean?)



RENDERING



The Word of God is found in the powerful arsenal of the weapons of warfare. It is the sword of the Spirit. Its ability to defeat Satan with truth is similar to how light overtakes darkness. It also guides, directs, and reveals areas where we need to grow.

Q2P

1. Do you have more pop songs memorized or Bible verses?
2. What is one verse that has made a difference in your life? Explain how.
3. What stops you from studying the Bible more? What's one practical step you can take to open your schedule for Word study?

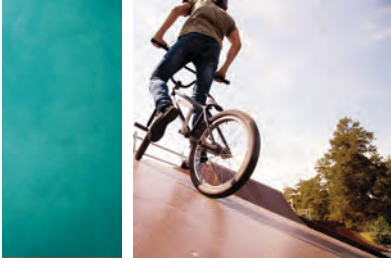


J4F

1. Gather in pairs and play the Land-Mine Game. This game demonstrates the importance of listening to God's voice, which is made evident to us through His written Word. Ask each pair to select the first person to be blindfolded and led through the "minefield." The minefield represents daily life and the obstacles Satan tries to place in our way. The minefield can consist of puddles of water, obstacles, barriers, things to step over, etc.
2. As the blindfolded member walks through the minefield, the partner will instruct him or her on how to maneuver around or through the obstacles. It's important for the blindfolded member to listen carefully to his or her partner so that he or she doesn't get tripped up in the obstacles. To increase the difficulty of this game, ask members of the other pairs to distract the blindfolded person. Distractions could include throwing paper airplanes or calling out instructions. This demonstrates how important it is to know God's voice and how to distinguish it among all the other distractions in our world.

In simple humility, let our
gardener, God, landscape you
with the **WORD**, making a
salvation-garden of your life.

—James 1:19



H2H

The Bible is a big book that teaches us important stuff for life. But how can you get to the good stuff when you need it? For example, how can the Bible help you respond to someone gossiping during third-period algebra class? How do you use the Bible to help you in everyday situations?

Can I answer those questions by asking you another one? How do you eat an elephant?

One bite at a time.

I'm not expecting you to digest the whole thing after PE in study hall. Instead, take the Bible bit by bit—or bite by bite—as you learn and study God's truth and principles.

If you want to go deeper in your understanding of this powerful kingdom key—God's Word—here's a tip called **REAP**. It's an acronym to help you understand and effectively use God's Word. Here is how it works:

Read a passage or verse.

Examine the passage or verse. What phrases or bits of information stick out? What questions do you have? Examining also includes making interpretations about the passage. What does God intend to teach you through this?

Apply His Word to your life. How can you practice what you have learned? Set goals and create an action plan for personal spiritual development and another action plan to help those around you.

Pray and ask God for opportunities to faithfully apply what you learned. Also ask for His help to use the knowledge and understanding you gained to strengthen yourself and your relationships with Him and with others.

1020

Use the Ancient Text verses in this *Kingdom Quest* strategy guide or select your own verses to study. As you read them, use the **SPECK** method to see how it applies to you. Answer any or all the questions below from the verse. Start by examining one verse of your choice and write your answers on the following lines. Start a **SPECK** journal or key your notes into your cell phone, tablet, or computer.

S—Is there a **sin** for me to avoid?

P—Is there a **promise** for me to claim?

E—Is there an **example** for me to follow?

C—Is there a **commandment** for me to obey?

K—Is there **knowledge** I can gain?

VERSE

S _____

P _____

E _____

C _____

K _____

KINGDOM KEY 6

FAITH

OBJECTIVES

1

You will see and learn that air, like faith, is a strong, invisible force.

2

You will learn how to apply faith through a life example.

3

You will measure your own faith profile.

WORD SKETCH

Strong belief or trust in someone or something; belief in the existence of God; strong religious feelings or beliefs

Origin—Middle English feith, from Anglo-French feid, fei, from Latin fides; akin to Latin fidere to trust
First known use: 13th century



////// **BELIEF**—a state of mind or habit in which trust or confidence is placed in some person or thing

////// **CREDENCE**—mental acceptance as true or real

////// **TRUST**—assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something

ANCIENT TEXT

Text a portion of this ancient text to a friend who needs encouragement.

It's impossible to please God apart from faith. And why? Because anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that he exists *and* that he cares enough to respond to those who seek him. —**HEBREWS 11:6**

TRANSLATE

(Write it in your own words.)

DEFINE

(What does it mean?)



RENDERING

Faith is acting as if something is so, even when it is not yet so, in order that it might be so simply because God said so. Faith is acting as if God is telling the truth. Faith involves more than your feelings; it involves your feet. We are to walk by faith, not only talk by faith.





Q2P

1. Can you recall a time when you struggled with doubt or felt uncertain about something? Describe why you were feeling doubt. What actions did you take to rebuild your faith? What was the end result?
2. List three things you know to be absolutely true about God even though you have never seen Him.
3. Complete this statement about faith: Sometimes I don't believe _____.

J4F

Faith is invisible, but it's strong. Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" (NIV).

For a simple object lesson to demonstrate this spiritual principle, gather two empty, clean two-liter soda bottles, one bottle cap, and a broom. Put the lid on one of the empty bottles. Leave the other one uncapped. Clear a large area on the floor. Lay the bottles on the floor lengthwise. Next, take the broom's handle and whack the bottles using *medium force*. As you'll see, the bottle without the lid (without faith) crushes. The bottle with the lid (the one full of faith) resists the blow.

This is like invisible faith. Faith can be tested when trials come. Like the bottle with the lid, we can resist the blows of doubt and the assault of worldly lies.

H2H

A few years ago, an interesting event occurred at a crusade held at Williams-Brice Stadium in South Carolina. More than 25,000 people were in the stadium when storm clouds formed. The leaders of the crusade and I (one of the speakers) gathered in a small room to pray that the rain wouldn't affect the crusade. We prayed things such as, "If it's Your will, God, could You hold back that rain?"

In the midst of our prayers, a petite woman named Linda came forward. She boldly prayed, "Lord, Your name is at stake. We told these people You wanted to say something to them, and if You don't hold back what You can control—the weather—someone could say that Your name is no good." Then she added this line: "Therefore, right now I ask in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the rain to stop for the sake of Your name!"

With that, we opened our eyes. Eyebrows went up. All we could think was, *Whoa. Did she really just pray that?*

On the stadium platform at 7:00 p.m., the leaders and I could see the sky had now become entirely black. The music started and massive thunder and lightning surrounded

But the Master said, “You don’t need *more* faith. There is no ‘more’ or ‘less’ in faith. If you have a bare **KERNEL OF FAITH**, say the size of a poppy seed, you could say to this sycamore tree, ‘Go jump in the lake,’ and it would do it.”

— LUKE 17:6



H2H CONTINUED

us. People stirred in their seats. While umbrellas began to go up, Linda sat there confident. A quiet look of expectation covered her face.

Then a wall of water rushed toward the stadium. Yet when the rain hit the stadium, it split. The two sides of rain met around the stadium.

The preachers and leaders looked at each other. Then we looked at Linda, who stared straight ahead confidently.

I believe God paid special attention to Linda's prayer because she had great faith. I believe Linda's prayer ushered in a miracle because she put her faith in God. Her petite frame held power, simply because she was intimately connected with and invested in God's name.*

Type in this URL or scan the QR code to watch a video on this powerful prayer story you read about in today's H2H: <http://youtu.be/zE7YomvT2eo>.

* Adapted with permission from Tony Evans and Chrystal Evans Hurst, *Kingdom Woman: Embracing Your Purpose, Power, and Possibilities* (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 2013), 73-75.



IU2U

For each question, circle the letter next to the answer that best reflects the way you think about and respond to challenging situations.

- I believe that God's Word is always true, all the time, in all circumstances, for all people.
A. STRONGLY AGREE B. AGREE C. DISAGREE D. STRONGLY DISAGREE
- I tend to get discouraged when I'm waiting on God to answer a prayer.
A. STRONGLY AGREE B. AGREE C. DISAGREE D. STRONGLY DISAGREE
- In my life, I've experienced making a decision or acting on faith and being rewarded for it.
**A. YES, MANY TIMES
 B. OCCASIONALLY
 C. MAYBE ONCE
 D. NO, NOT THAT I KNOW OF**
- In my life, I've experienced making a decision or acting on faith only to be disappointed.
**A. YES, MANY TIMES
 B. OCCASIONALLY
 C. MAYBE ONCE
 D. NO, I HAVE NEVER BEEN DISAPPOINTED**
- Fear holds me back from trying new things.
A. STRONGLY AGREE B. AGREE C. DISAGREE D. STRONGLY DISAGREE

6. I need to see it before I can believe it.
A. ALWAYS
B. MOST OF THE TIME
C. SOMETIMES
D. NO. IF I CAN IMAGINE IT, I CAN BELIEVE IT.
7. I make decisions based on how I feel about the situation or the people involved.
A. STRONGLY AGREE **B. AGREE** **C. DISAGREE** **D. STRONGLY DISAGREE**
8. I regularly pray for God's help and guidance.
A. YES, AT LEAST ONCE A DAY
B. YES, OFTEN
C. YES, EVERY SUNDAY AT CHURCH
D. YES, WHEN I'M WORRIED OR IN A BIND
9. I believe that God always answers prayer.
A. STRONGLY AGREE **B. AGREE** **C. DISAGREE** **D. STRONGLY DISAGREE**
10. Sometimes, things get worse before they get better.
A. STRONGLY AGREE **B. AGREE** **C. DISAGREE** **D. STRONGLY DISAGREE**

FAITH SCORECARD

1. Answer:	A-5	B-4	C-3	D-2	POINTS:
2. Answer:	A-2	B-3	C-4	D-5	POINTS:
3. Answer:	A-5	B-4	C-3	D-2	POINTS:
4. Answer:	A-2	B-3	C-4	D-5	POINTS:
5. Answer:	A-2	B-3	C-4	D-5	POINTS:
6. Answer:	A-2	B-3	C-4	D-5	POINTS:
7. Answer:	A-5	B-4	C-3	D-2	POINTS:
8. Answer:	A-5	B-4	C-3	D-2	POINTS:
9. Answer:	A-5	B-4	C-3	D-2	POINTS:
10. Answer:	A-2	B-3	C-4	D-5	POINTS:


 TOTAL POINTS:

1020 CONTINUED

FAITH PROFILE

If your total points score was . . .

40–50: You have learned the excitement of living by faith. God always answers prayer, but He doesn't always answer on our timetable, or give us the answer we want. The longer we walk with God, the more we learn that He always has our best interest in mind. We also learn that He is always true to His Word.

30–39: Building your faith, like anything else worth doing, requires practice. That practice comes through prayer, worship, and studying God's Word. When we believe His Word to be true for all people, in all circumstances, and at all times, it changes our perspective on life. We begin to see that sometimes what we wanted really isn't the best for us, and we learn to trust that He will provide for all our needs "according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19, NASB).

20–29: One thing is for sure: "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1, NASB). God wants you to have faith because through faith, He can bless you, provide for you, guide you, and otherwise make your life full. Never let anyone tell you that life with God is dull. Nothing can be further from the truth! Living by faith is the most exciting way to live. God wants to bless you abundantly, above what you can dream or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). Start talking to God today. He is listening. Read His Word, and sing Him a love song. He is waiting!