

Even in Our Pain
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USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon
and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group.
For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to get through the
questions, but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships.
Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

God answers simple prayers that we cry out to Him.

His devotion was his key to his promotion.

—C.H. Spurgeon

Even in the midst of our pain, God hears our prayers.

[1 Chronicles 4.9-10]

Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain."

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. Jabez didn't let his name DEFINE him.

Jabez' name did not prevent him from blessings; His pain did not disqualify him from answered prayers.

[1 Chronicles 4.9]

His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain."

If God puts you on the top shelf of honor, it doesn't matter what your name means.

[1 Chronicles 2.55]

And the clans of scribes who lived at Jabez.

2. Jabez DEPENDED on God.

[1 Chronicles 4.10]

Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me (indeed) 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.

Oftentimes, God needs to prepare the person to be able to handle the blessing.

[2 Corinthians 9.10-11]

Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

3. Jabez DESIRED God's presence.

[Proverbs 10.22]

The blessing of the Lord that expands you but he will with it, give you no sorrow.

The curse built into every blessing is that we might get so comfortable that we feel like we don't need the bless-er.

[1 Chronicles 4.10]

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.

4. God did it.

FOR MONDAY—

- 1. Wake up and speak the prayer of Jabez out of 1 Chronicles 4.9-10 over your life.**
- 2. Pastor Bianca said, "*We are about to cross over into the Promised Land! God has not left us to die in this season.*" Write down what you believe the Promised Land you're crossing into will be.**

TALK IT THROUGH

- 1. Who are some pretty bold people in your life? In what areas of life are you unashamedly bold?**
- 2. What is your natural response to pain? How do you deal with it?**
- 3. When have you seen some simple prayers answered? When have you experienced miraculous the miraculous power of God?**
- 4. If no one is around to change our name or title, how can we still live through the label and find our true identity?**
- 5. How does God move through our pain, grief, or sorrow?**

- 6. What motivated Jabez to ask God to “enlarge his territory?”
Why do you think he was not specific in his request?**
- 7. When have you been in a similar situation, where you knew God’s heart and counted on the Holy Spirit to translate your prayers? [Romans 8.26-27]**
- 8. This week, in what areas will you pray for God’s “indeed” kind of blessing?**