

## **Chapter Two: So Why Not Ask?**

*May 25, 2022*

*(from the book *The Prayer of Jabez: Breaking Through to the Blessed Life*, by Bruce Wilkinson)*

1. The word ASK means to say something in order to obtain an answer or some information. It also means to request for someone to do something or to give something.
2. Is it possible that God wants you to be "selfish" in your prayers? Is it possible that God wants you to ask for more and more again from Him? (elaborate)
3. This prayer is not selfish nor self-centered. It is supremely spiritual and it is the kind of request our Father longs to hear from us.
4. "Great men of faith think differently than the rest of us." Wilkinson says that the reason some men and women of faith pray above the rest is that they think differently than others around them.
5. What does praying BOLDLY mean to you? What led Jabez to make such a powerful four-fold prayer request to God?
6. Note this radical (far-reaching) aspect of Jabez's request for blessing: he left it entirely up to God to decide what the blessings would be, and where, when, and how he would receive them.
7. What happens when we seek God's blessing as the ultimate value in our lives?
8. According to Matthew 7:7 and James 4:2, it is possible that you did not receive all of your blessings from God because you did not ask!!!
9. The very nature of God is to have goodness in so much abundance (John 10:10; Eph.3:20) that it overflows into our unworthy lives (Psalm 23:5; Romans 3:23).
10. Why not ask God to bless you... every day... A whole lot? Can you recall a time (s) when you asked God to bless you--- and He gave you more than you requested?
11. Jabez was blessed by God because he did not allow any obstacle, person, or opinion to loom larger than God's nature. God's nature is to love (1John 4:8) and to bless!
12. Your unworthiness can determine the way that you approach God and what you ask of Him, if you allow it to .