

## House On The Rock Life Group Study outline 2022

### April: Praying to Breakthrough

#### *Week 3 – The power of prayer*

##### Introduction

“Prayer is the master key”, “prayer is a gamechanger”, “when all else fails, pray”. These are statements that we have heard many times about prayer being the answer, because we believe there is power in prayer.

But these are still only words. In our everyday lives, we often learn best from what we see others do. One of the benefits we gain from having the bible as a reference is that we can see how others before us did certain things, so that we have the benefit of learning from their successes and mistakes. When it comes to effective prayer, there are two examples that stand out, who we want to learn from today.

Elijah lived under the old covenant, yet he was presented by the apostle James in the new testament as an example of effective prayer. The Lord Jesus taught His disciples to pray, and provided us with the earliest example of how to pray in the new testament.

Is there anything in their prayer walks that we can apply to our own lives today?

##### Pilot text

***James 5:17-18 [GNT] 17Elijah was the same kind of person as we are. He prayed earnestly that there would be no rain, and no rain fell on the land for three and a half years. 18 Once again he prayed, and the sky poured out its rain and the earth produced its crops.***

***Matt 26:39 [GNT] He went a little farther on, threw himself face downward on the ground, and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me! Yet not what I want, but what you want.”***

- Consider the story of Elijah in [1 Kings chapters 17 and 18](#), as described by the first pilot text. Why was Elijah’s prayer so effective?
- Consider the example of Jesus in [Matt 26:36-44](#). What can we learn about how to pray effectively?
- Kindly share a time in your life where you had a breakthrough because of intentional prayer. What aspects of what we have learnt in this series did you see at work?

##### Take home actions

Come up with a plan of action of how you can implement what you have learnt from this study series in your prayer walk.