

### Devotion on the prayer of Jabez:

- All is known about Jabez are two verses from 1 Ch 4:9-10
- If Luke 11 is the “model prayer” from our Lord Jesus, these two verses is the “model prayer” from man. God centered vs Man centered?
- The little book “Prayer of Jabez” by Bruce Walkinson is a run-away success – 9 million copies sold, plus other promotional materials.
- In an economic down-turn, the only person to prosper is one that sells “get rich” book.
- Walkinson asks his readers to recite this prayer every day as a recipe for success.
- What is known of Jabez:
  - A man born of sorrow
  - Has brothers
  - A life branded with sorrow
  - Yet more honorable than his brothers.
  - A man of intense prayers & specific prayer requests – ask for 4 things
  - God answers his prayer
- What is not known of Jabez’s prayer:
  - If he repeats the same prayer every day, like Walkinson prescribes (asking for wealth, health, fame, influence; a motivation verse for bigger vision)
  - How God answers his prayer
  - If God answers his prayer immediately
- Some possible conclusion:
  - God honors his prayer because he is a righteous man (more honorable than his brothers)
  - Blessing – see Psalm 1 and Ephesians 1 (Pastor Ed’s sermons)
  - Enlarge my coast – to avoid a life time of sorrow
  - God’s hand be upon me – see Acts 11:21
  - Keep me from evil – ask for protection
  - so that it might not bring me pain! – Prayer of pain relief?