**Introduction:** A prayer I will never forget.

- Haiti – 1982

- A jungle compound – “hospital of pain.”

- The professor had a “secret weapon of power.”

**Practice:** Pray GREAT Prayers!

23 In that day you will no longer ask Me anything. I tell you the truth, My Father will give you whatever you ask in My name. 24 Until now you have not asked for anything in My name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

John 16:23-24 (NIV)
Five characteristics of great prayers:

1. Great prayers are deeply __________________________.
   - Great prayers begin and end with God, Himself.

   **Examples:**
   - Moses  
     Exodus 33:17-19
   - David  
     Psalm 27:4
   - Paul  
     Philippians 3:8-10
   - Jesus  
     John 17:3

   **Jesus’ teaching:**
   "Our Father” – Abba Father  
   Matthew 6:9 (NASB)

2. Great prayers are birthed in __________________________.
   - Great prayers reflect our desperate dependency on Him.

   **Examples:**
   - Moses  
     Exodus 4:11-12
   - David  
     Psalm 51:16-17
   - Nehemiah  
     Nehemiah 1:3-4
   - Isaiah  
     Isaiah 6

   **Jesus’ teaching:**
   "Who is in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.”  
   Matthew 6:9 (NASB)
3. Great prayers _______________ God’s agenda.

- Great prayers are prayed by people who understand God’s agenda for His world.

  **Examples:**
  
  - Moses
  - Nehemiah
  - Solomon

**Jesus’ teaching:**

“Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

Matthew 6:10 (NASB)

4. Great prayers take God _________________.

- Great prayers are promise centered, not problem centered.

  **Examples:**
  
  - Moses
  - Nehemiah
  - David
  - Paul

**Jesus’ teaching:**

“Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.”

Matthew 6:11-12 (NASB)
5. Great prayers demand great ________________! Why?

- They are **DANGEROUS**!

- They boldly demand of God that He live up to His character.
  
  **Examples:**
  
  - Abraham 
  - Moses

- They dare to stand in the gap becoming the answer to the prayer if God wills it.
  
  **Examples:**
  
  - Esther
  - Nehemiah
  - Jesus

**Jesus’ teaching:**

“For Thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever!” Amen.

Matthew 6:13b

**Summary:** Great prayers ask the **improbable**, expect the **impossible**, and receive the **unthinkable** because of Jesus.

- Because of Jesus’ **command**, we boldly ask the **improbable**. Matthew 7:7-8

- Because of Jesus’ **promise**, we expect the **impossible**. John 16:24

- Because of Jesus’ **power**, we receive the **unthinkable**. Ephesians 3:20