

# THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN

For those who love Christ, righteousness is the standard. But there are no human means to achieve righteousness. The Church has long specialized in piety and chastity and temperance in the futile effort to attain righteousness apart from God. God called Abraham a friend and declared him righteous, but why? Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness. Once again, in His loving pursuit of sinners, God has set the standard then graciously provided the means to achieve it. What will happen in God's church when His people stop mimicking righteousness and start living it?

## DISCUSSION

Jacob lived a life that seldom acknowledged God. When in his life did he refrain from leaning on his own understanding and seek God's will?

(Genesis 28:13-15 , Genesis 32:1-2)

- Did Jacob seek God out or did God seek Jacob? (2 Cor 5:16-21)
- Discuss how you have made the mistake of thinking you "found God" in your life?

## EXPLANATION

Jacob's prayer has been called the "prayer of a righteous man." In what way was his prayer righteous? (Genesis 32:1-12)

- How can we attain to righteousness in our prayer lives? (James 2:23)
- God made promises to Jacob. What promises has God made to you?

## APPLICATION

As we mature in our faith, the Holy Spirit changes the desires of our heart. As we desire to be righteous as Christ was righteous, what practical steps can we encourage one another to take? (Proverbs 3:6-8)

## MISSION

Make a plan of action. How are you going to discipline yourself to righteousness in 2013?

## HOMEWORK FOR NEXT WEEK

Read Gen 32:13-32 and ask the following Questions:

Have you ever thought that God enjoyed beating you up? When/how? When was the last time you saw God be faithful even when you were faithless?



## PART 49 THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN GENESIS 32:1-12

- James 5:16
- Genesis 28:13-15
- James 2:23
- Genesis 32:1-12
- Proverbs 3:6-8
- Romans 3:10
- 2 Corinthians 5:16
- Matthew 22:37-38
- Matthew 28:18-19
- 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
- Romans 10:10

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**James 5:16 "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Gospel Class  
Starts January 20th

Newcomer Party  
February 1st

MOE Go Kart Racing  
February 16th



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