

The name Jabez means “pain, sorrow, suffering”. Every time someone said, “Hello, Jabez”, they were saying, “Hello, sorrow. Hello, pain.” They were prophesying defeat and failure. You can imagine how he could have let that make him feel inferior and insecure. But despite what people labelled him, he had the boldness to ask big, that God would bless him with abundance and protection, and God blessed him indeed.

Like Jabez, you may have reasons to settle where you are: what you didn’t get, what people said or did etc. - the odds may be against you. The good news is that God is for you. He can thrust you further than you ever imagined, but you have to pray bold prayers. Ask in spite of the circumstances. Ask in spite of what people are saying or doing. Ask in spite of what Satan keeps whispering in your ears. If you are going to reach your highest potential, you need to learn this principle of asking big. Remember, nothing is too big (or small, because he hears all your prayers) for God!

1 Chronicles 4:10 “...Jabez prayed to the God of Israel: “Bless me, O bless me! Give me land, large tracts of land. And provide your personal protection - don’t let evil hurt me.” God gave him what he asked...”