

# THE PEOPLE OF GOD – SERIES 4

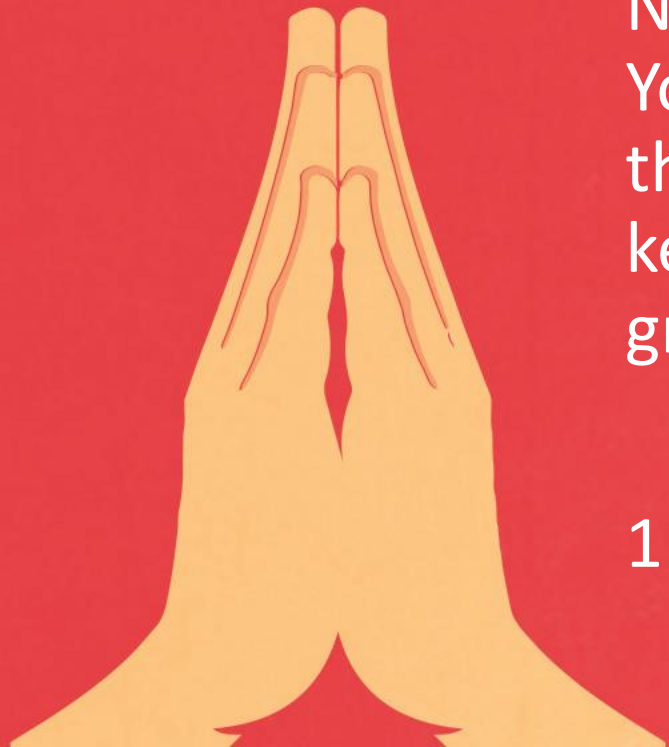
Bible Reading Plan, January - March 2020

# Jabez: genealogy gold!


Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother named him Jabez saying, “Because I bore him with pain.”

Now Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, “Oh that You would bless me indeed and enlarge my border, and that Your hand might be with me, and that You would keep me from harm that it may not pain me!” And God granted him what he requested.

1 Chronicles 4:9-10



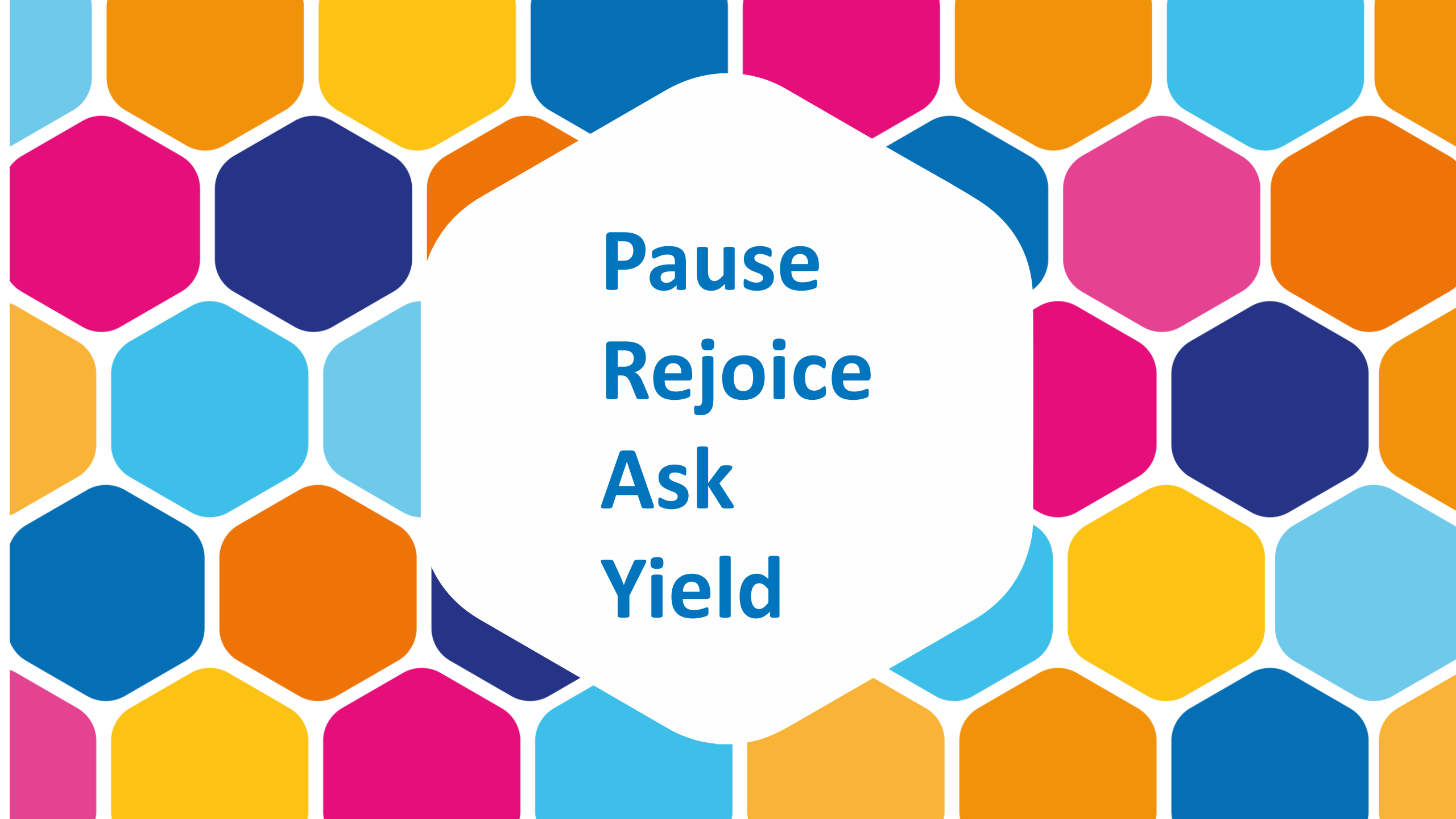




# 21 PRAYER & DAYS OF FASTING

Starting Monday 20 January 2020





**Pause  
Rejoice  
Ask  
Yield**

# Lessons from Jabez

Be real because...

- God hears
- God answers
- God redeems



# Be real

A selfish prayer?

- Possibly, but not far from the mark
- Based on what he learned from his fathers
  - God blessed **Abraham**
  - God enlarged **Isaac's** territory
  - God was with **Jacob**
  - God kept **Joseph** from harm
- Jesus perfected it
  - Be with me -> Our Father
  - Bless me -> Give us our daily bread
  - Keep me -> Deliver us from the evil one



# God hears

- God granted him...
  - Importance of asking – James 4:2
  - God is gracious and longs to bless
  - Honour leads to favour
  - Friendship leads to favour – John 15:12-17
- Unanswered prayer does not mean God isn't listening
  - Spiritual battle – Daniel 10
  - God rules as a lamb – Revelation 5
  - Some prayers God cannot answer – James 4:3



# God answers

- Jesus taught us to persevere – Luke 11:8
  - How many give up before the prayer is answered?
- God does more than we ask! Luke 11:1, 13
  - “Teach us to pray”
  - “How much more will your Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask”





# God redeems

- His name was a curse
  - 'He will cause pain'
- God turned what was meant for evil to good
  - God was glorified – a town named after him 1 Chron 2:55
  - Brother Mark
- The cross!
- What potentially harmful thing in our lives might God want to turn for good?
  - My low self esteem produced love



# Let's pray ...

Our Father who is in heaven,  
Hallowed be Your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
Your will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Amen

Matthew 6:9-13