

## LESSON 7 // INCREASE US—PART 1

**Big Idea:** Jesus taught us to ask our heavenly Father, "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). God wants to increase His kingdom in your life as you pray. His desire is that you continually experience more of what has eternal value and worth. This will bless your relationship with Him and spill over into the lives of others. Pray that the Lord will increase your wisdom, love, faith and favor so He can use you to bless those around you.

**1 Chronicles 4:9, 10 (NIV)** Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain." <sup>10</sup> Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request.

### **Start Talking:**

What does it mean to you for God's kingdom to come to your "earth ... as it is in heaven"?

What pain or other struggles might keep you from experiencing this increase of God's kingdom in your life?

# Start Thinking:

**Read James 1:5.** How does this verse encourage you to pray for wisdom? How can growing in God's wisdom increase His blessing in your life and through you to others?

**Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3.** Why is it so essential that you grow in love if you want to experience God's increase in your life?

**Read Mark 9:24.** In what ways do you identify with the man in this verse? What do you learn about praying through challenges from his example?

**Read Psalm 5:12 and Psalm 90:17.** How do these verses speak to you about God's favor and encourage you to seek His favor?

### **Start Praying:**

Ask group members how they want to see an increase of God's kingdom in their lives. Pray for each other based on these desires and the biblical principles and promises from this lesson.

### **Start Doing:**

Look for opportunities to be a blessing to others through the wisdom, love, faith and favor God has put in your life. Be prepared to share in the group next week how the Lord is working through these opportunities.

Invite those in your group to prayerfully consider supporting outreach efforts at Church of the Redeemer. For more information, visit: https://church-redeemer.org/ministries/outreach/covid-19.