



Our lives, as believers, come with a wonderful invitation to be lives of greatness. For many of us, the God given awareness of this invitation will eventually lead us to begin praying new prayers. We begin to believe that God has not only given us a great invitation to do things like heal the sick and set them free from oppression, but also a great empowerment to actually do those very things. In recognition of this truth, what do we often begin to pray? Maybe something like, “God, would you give us the boldness to actually walk these things out?”

For many of us, if we’re honest, the greatest hinderance to seeing more healing, more freedom, even more people around us know about the goodness of Jesus is really just fear. So, if God has given us the invitation, and the empowerment, but we’re still halted by fear, then certainly we do need that boldness. However, how many times do we ask for boldness, only to completely miss the fact that the intimidating circumstance that immediately followed was really God answering our prayers? You see, much of the

time when we ask for boldness, our answer doesn’t just come in the form of an immediate experience of the feeling of boldness. No, what we get is opportunity. We get a situation that **REQUIRES** boldness.

Now, why would God give us a situation that requires the very thing that we not only seem to lack, but we’ve already asked him for? Well, I believe that it’s ultimately about two things. First, God desires to raise up sons and daughters and just like any good parent does, our Father loves to bring us into situations that draw us into greater maturity rather than always doing our tasks for us. The second piece is explained in Mark 11:24 where Jesus said, “when you pray, believe that you **HAVE RECEIVED** and it **WILL** be given to you.” He is showing us that believing that we have already received that which we pray for actually plays a part in bringing into being. In this particular instance, we must believe that the boldness that we have asked for is already inside of us, and it’s our stepping out into the hard situation that actually draws it out. It’s a three fold movement of prayer: ask, believe, and act.

One of the clearest examples of this ask, believe, act prayer movement is found in 2 Kings Chapter 2:6-14. Elisha not only asked, then believed, but he also put into action his belief. This was the starting point of a life filled with wonderful miracles.