

# GROWTH + GROUPS

NAVIGATE LIFE TOGETHER

## Maranatha Chapel Sermon Based Study Guide SB 01.16.22

### THE GOD OF BREAKTHROUGHS: 2 SAMUEL 5:17-23

#### Receiving the Message and Relating to the Study

What insights, principles, or observations stood out to you from this week's message? Discuss with your group.

Pastor Ray carried a bright torch for our church that illuminated Jesus for all to follow. He was a faithful shepherd, spiritual leader, a friend to many, and always greeted you with a warm smile and a twinkle in his eye. He was not ashamed to preach the Gospel, verse by verse, word by word. In the most eloquent manner, he showed us the Way, Truth, and the victorious Life found only in Jesus. Before Pastor Ray broke through into heaven, he received a word for this year. He warned us this year's word would be a "doosie", and it sure is. The prophetic word for 2022 is "Breakthrough"! Our anointed Pastor Daniel received the torch of our church from Pastor Ray and expanded on how our God is the God of breakthroughs. The word breakthrough was originally a military word. It can be defined as advancing all the way through an enemy's frontline of defense. Just as a plant may break through hard concrete to obtain life giving light, we need to inquire of the Lord to break through the battles of this world and obtain victory through Jesus. King David illustrated this well. He first inquired of the Lord, then was able to "breakthrough" the seemingly impossible Philistine army to achieve victory. This is a year for victorious breakthrough! So, let's "step into the story", join the adventure of faith, and believe and walk in the prophetic promises that God has given...

1. Share some ways Pastor Ray illuminated Jesus in your life.
2. The words for 2021 were restoration and visitation. Provide a few personal examples of restoration and visitation in your life from 2021.
3. Describe or illustrate what you think it means to "breakthrough".
4. What stood out to you during this week's study?

#### Digging Deeper in God's Word: Life Lessons

##### HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 2 SAMUEL 5:17-21

David was anointed three times. The first time by Samuel when he was a boy, likely around 15 years old (1 Samuel 16:13). The second time when the men of Judah anointed him king over just the house of Judah, when he was 30 (2 Samuel 2:4). The third time when the elders of Israel anointed him king over all Israel, when he was about 37 years old (2 Samuel 5:3). God used the time between the first and last anointing to prepare David for God's purpose in his life. As David's reign extended beyond Judah, the Philistines decided to attack. They gathered their forces at the Valley of Rephaim, south of Jerusalem. David immediately inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines?" Assured of victory from the Lord, David attacked and defeated the Philistines. He called the place Baal Perazim, meaning *the master of breakthrough*.

1. Read Ephesians 2:10. For what purpose did God create us?
2. All the battles we go through are in preparation for what God has in store. From your experience, is it always easy to trust God in times of battle? Why or why not?
3. When you face an uncertain future, what battle strategy should you do to break through the enemy's defense? (2 Samuel 5:19)

## **Breakthrough in 2022**

4. David could not have claimed victory without first inquiring of the Lord and then going to battle. Why is it even necessary to go to battle against the enemy?

### **HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 2 SAMUEL 5:22-23**

Sometime later, the Philistines returned to the same Valley of Rephaim and threatened Israel. Therefore, David again inquired of the Lord. David listened to the Lord and knew the heartbeat of God. David was “a man after God’s own heart” (1 Samuel 13:14). The closer you are to the Lord, the closer you are to your Breakthrough. This time the Lord told David to circle around behind the enemy forces, opposite some mulberry trees. When he heard the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, he would know the Lord was marching against the Philistines. The result again was victory for Israel. David trusted the Lord.

5. After we have done all we can, a common thought is to pray and hope for the best. Here, we see David running to the Lord and praying before anything has been done. Why do some mistakenly reverse the order of when we should inquire of the Lord? Why can it be hard to trust the Lord for the victory?
6. God’s strategy in the first battle was a direct attack, the strategy for the second battle was an ambush. Why is it important to have a strategy when going into a battle? What is our strategy to be?
7. God’s answer for victory was not the same for the second battle as it was for the first battle. In order to receive our Breakthrough in battle, we need to inquire of the Lord’s will every day for every situation we face. Provide some examples of when the Lord answered prayer differently for a similar battle you have faced.
8. Read Psalm 18:2. David declares who God is in his life. His rock, strength and in who he puts his trust. This expression of security in God brings a victorious Breakthrough. Breakthroughs are still for today! God is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). Provide some examples of how God is your rock, strength and who you trust.

### **Applying God’s Word**

**What did you learn from this study and how does this personally speak to you? Discuss with your group.**

### **READ EPHESIANS 6:10-12**

Our battle is not against natural forces, but spiritual principalities or powers of wickedness. The battle is real, difficult, and dangerous. We cannot expect to be immune from the assaults of the enemy and we cannot afford to be neutral and Breakthrough with victory. We must face our battles, but not through our own self-reliance. We must run to the Lord and seek His strategy for each and every battle presented before us. As a result, our God will advance us all the way through the enemy’s frontline of defense. For our God is the God of Breakthroughs!

1. What strategic area in your heart is the enemy holding captive and doesn’t want you to have a breakthrough?
2. Sometimes it is easy to want a breakthrough without going through the battle. Breakthroughs require us to battle. What better a time than the new year to claim victory over a battle in your life. Will you face that battle this week. If so, run to the Lord, and inquire of the Lord for your battle strategy. He will provide you with a Breakthrough.

### **PRAYER**

Thank You Lord, for our beloved Pastor Ray and the light of Jesus that shined through him. We are so blessed as a church to have been shepherded by him. Thank you for the anointing of the Holy Spirit that was poured over Pastor Daniel. Bless him, keep him, and may your face shine brightly upon him as he shepherds us. Lord, help us to carry on the torch of Jesus and be a light unto a lost world. As we experience battles in our life, help us to inquire of You first, and then fight the good battle to achieve a triumph victory.

*“Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ” 2 Corinthians 2:14a*

## Breakthrough in 2022

### Names of our Lord

- **EL, ELOAH** [el, el-oh-ah]: **God "mighty, strong, prominent"** (Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 139:19) – etymologically, El appears to mean “power” and “might” (Genesis 31:29). El is associated with other qualities, such as integrity (Numbers 23:19), jealousy (Deuteronomy 5:9), and compassion (Nehemiah 9:31), but the root idea of “might” remains.
- **ELOHIM** [el-oh-heem]: **God “Creator, Mighty and Strong”** (Genesis 17:7; Jeremiah 31:33) – the plural form of Eloah, which accommodates the doctrine of the Trinity. From the Bible’s first sentence, the superlative nature of God’s power is evident as God (Elohim) speaks the world into existence (Genesis 1:1).
- **EL SHADDAI** [el-shah-dahy]: **“God Almighty,” “The Mighty One of Jacob”** (Genesis 49:24; Psalm 132:2,5) – speaks to God’s ultimate power over all.
- **ADONAI** [ˌædɒˈnaɪ; ah-daw-nahy]: **“Lord”** (Genesis 15:2; Judges 6:15) – used in place of YHWH, which was thought by the Jews to be too sacred to be uttered by sinful men. In the Old Testament, YHWH is more often used in God’s dealings with His people, while Adonai is used more when He deals with the Gentiles.
- **YHWH / YAHWEH / JEHOVAH** [yah-way / ji-hoh-veh]: **“LORD”** (Deuteronomy 6:4; Daniel 9:14) – strictly speaking, the only proper name for God. Translated in English Bibles “LORD” (all capitals) to distinguish it from Adonai, “Lord.” The revelation of the name is given to Moses “I Am who I Am” (Exodus 3:14). This name specifies an immediacy, a presence. Yahweh is present, accessible, near to those who call on Him for deliverance (Psalm 107:13), forgiveness (Psalm 25:11) and guidance (Psalm 31:3).
- **YAHWEH-JIREH** [yah-way-ji-reh]: **“The Lord Will Provide”** (Genesis 22:14) – the name memorialized by Abraham when God provided the ram to be sacrificed in place of Isaac.
- **YAHWEH-RAPHA** [yah-way-raw-faw]: **“The Lord Who Heals”** (Exodus 15:26) – “I am Jehovah who heals you” both in body and soul. In body, by preserving from and curing diseases, and in soul, by pardoning iniquities.
- **YAHWEH-NISSI** [yah-way-nee-see]: **“The Lord Our Banner”** (Exodus 17:15), where banner is understood to be a rallying place. This name commemorates the desert victory over the Amalekites in Exodus 17.
- **YAHWEH-M'KADDESH** [yah-way-meh-kad-esh]: **“The Lord Who Sanctifies, Makes Holy”** (Leviticus 20:8; Ezekiel 37:28) – God makes it clear that He alone, not the law, can cleanse His people and make them holy.
- **YAHWEH-SHALOM** [yah-way-shah-lohm]: **“The Lord Our Peace”** (Judges 6:24) – the name given by Gideon to the altar he built after the Angel of the Lord assured him he would not die as he thought he would after seeing Him.
- **YAHWEH-ELOHIM** [yah-way-el-oh-him]: **“LORD God”** (Genesis 2:4; Psalm 59:5) – a combination of God’s unique name YHWH and the generic “Lord,” signifying that He is the Lord of Lords.
- **YAHWEH-TSIDKENU** [yah-way-tzid-kay-noo]: **“The Lord Our Righteousness”** (Jeremiah 33:16) – As with YHWH-M’Kaddesh, it is God alone who provides righteousness (from the Hebrew word tsidkenu) to man, ultimately in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ, who became sin for us “that we might become the Righteousness of God in Him” (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- **YAHWEH-ROHI** [yah-way-roh-hee]: **“The Lord Our Shepherd”** (Psalm 23:1) – After David pondered his relationship as a shepherd to his sheep, he realized that was exactly the relationship God had with him, and so he declares, “Yahweh-Rohi is my Shepherd. I shall not want” (Psalm 23:1).
- **YAHWEH-SHAMMAH** [yah-way-sham-mahw]: **“The Lord Is There”** (Ezekiel 48:35) – the name ascribed to Jerusalem and the Temple there, indicating that the once-departed glory of the Lord (Ezekiel 8–11) had returned (Ezekiel 44:1-4).

### **Breakthrough in 2022**

- **YAHWEH-SABAOTH** [yah-way-sah-bah-ohth]: **"The Lord of Hosts"** (Isaiah 1:24; Psalm 46:7) – Hosts means "hordes," both of angels and of men. He is Lord of the host of heaven and of the inhabitants of the earth, of Jews and Gentiles, of rich and poor, master and slave. The name is expressive of the majesty, power, and authority of God and shows that He is able to accomplish what He determines to do.
- **EL ELYON** [el-el-yohn]: **"Most High"** (Deuteronomy 26:19) – derived from the Hebrew root for "go up" or "ascend," so the implication is of that which is the very highest. El Elyon denotes exaltation and speaks of absolute right to lordship.
- **EL ROI** [el-roh-ee]: **"God of Seeing"** (Genesis 16:13) – the name ascribed to God by Hagar, alone and desperate in the wilderness after being driven out by Sarah (Genesis 16:1-14). When Hagar met the Angel of the Lord, she realized she had seen God Himself in a theophany. She also realized that El Roi saw her in her distress and testified that He is a God who lives and sees all.
- **EL-OLAM** [el-oh-lahm]: **"Everlasting God"** (Psalm 90:1-3) – God's nature is without beginning or end, free from all constraints of time, and He contains within Himself the very cause of time itself. "From everlasting to everlasting, You are God."
- **EL-GIBHOR** [el-ghee-bohr]: **"Mighty God"** (Isaiah 9:6) – the name describing the Messiah, Christ Jesus, in this prophetic portion of Isaiah. As a powerful and mighty warrior, the Messiah, the Mighty God, will accomplish the destruction of God's enemies and rule with a rod of iron (Revelation 19:15).