

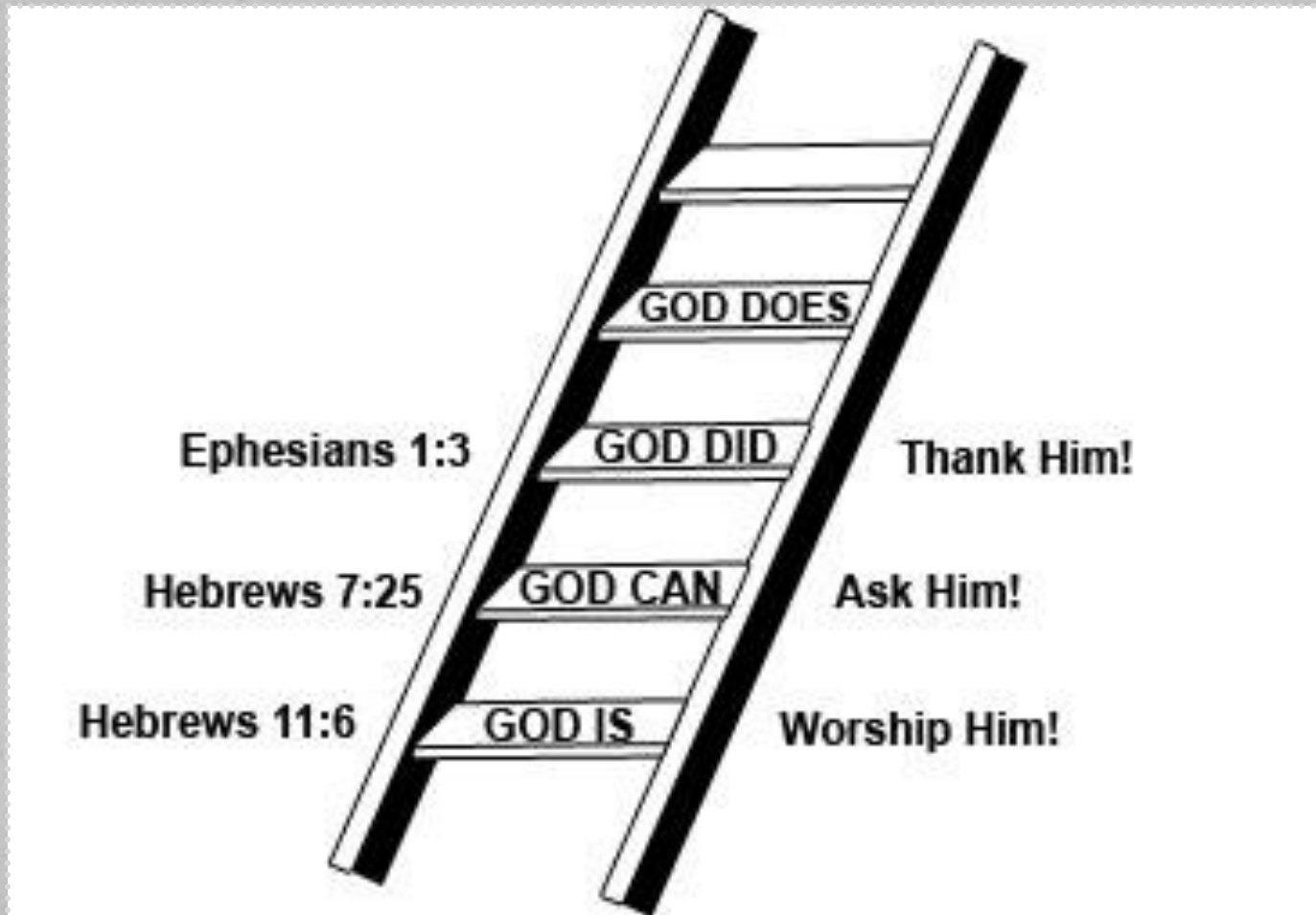
Session 5

**GOD DOES!**  
**Obey Him.**

# Theme:

Loving obedience to God places us in position to receive His immediate and long-range answers.

# Step 4 in the Ladder of Faith



# **Biblical Foundation:**

“And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.”

1 John 3:22 NKJV™

# **The Purpose of This Session**

is to help us grow in prayer by discerning  
and obeying instructions from God.

# Introduction:

Answers begin as soon as we start praying.

“Then he said to me, ‘Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.’”

Daniel 10:12 NKJV™

2. Our loving [**obedience**] to God is a vital part of His answering procedure.

“And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.”

1 John 3:22 NKJV™

## A. Basic Truth: GOD DOES!

Our faith grows when we realize that God uses our [prayers] as channels for His action.

“For everyone who keeps on asking for something to be given, keeps on receiving. And he who keeps on seeking, keeps on finding. And to him who keeps on reverently knocking, it shall be opened.”

Matthew 7:8—Wuest’s translation

1. This literal translation of Matthew 7:8 shows that God [works] through our praying.
2. God answers while we are praying. Our prayers become supply lines for His powerful working!

“As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.”

Acts 13:2,3 NKJV™

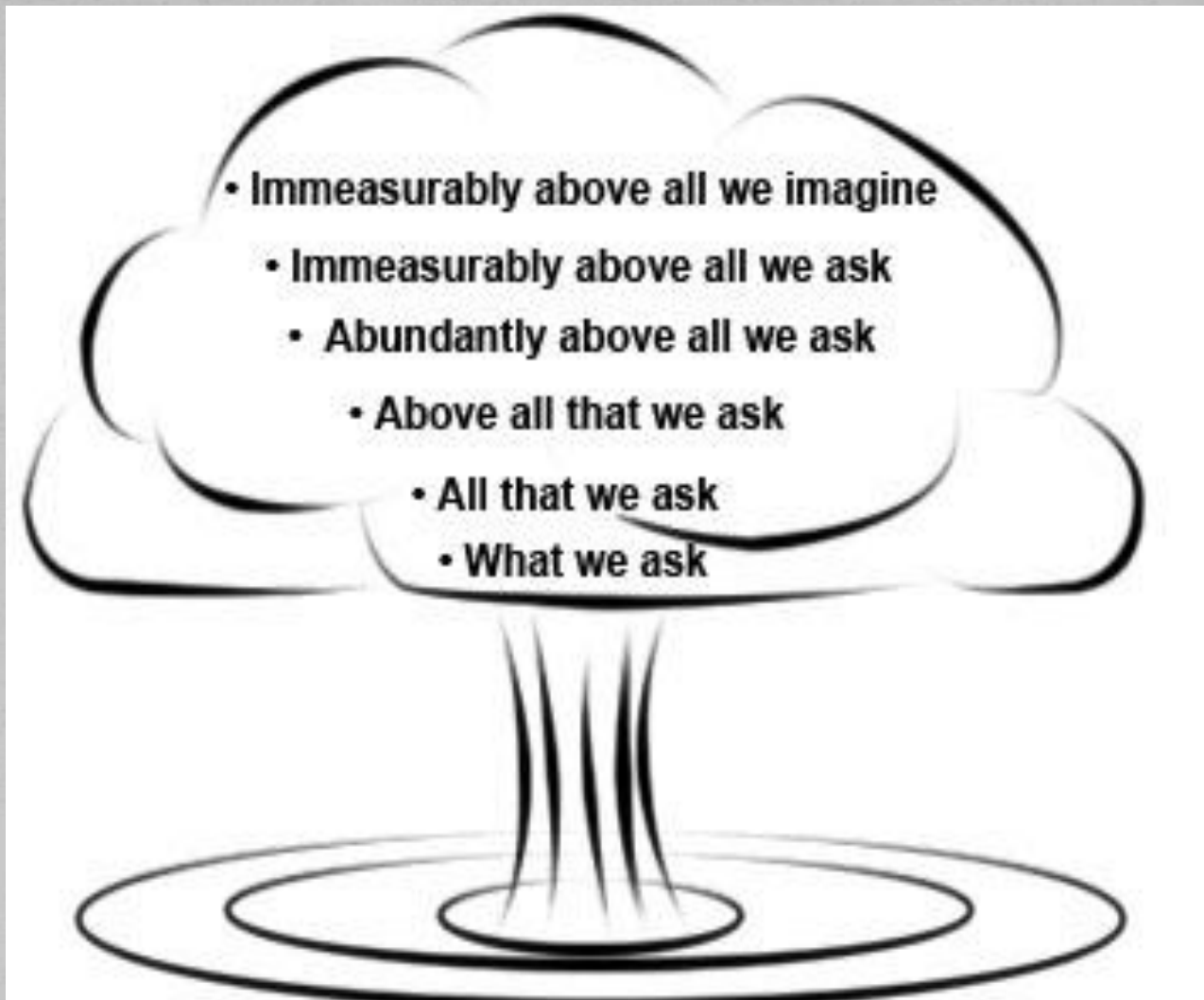
3. Watch for indicators of His action.  
[Listen] for Scriptures, [follow]  
instructions, and use insights that God  
gives you in prayer.

## **B. Scripture: Ephesians 3:20**

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.”

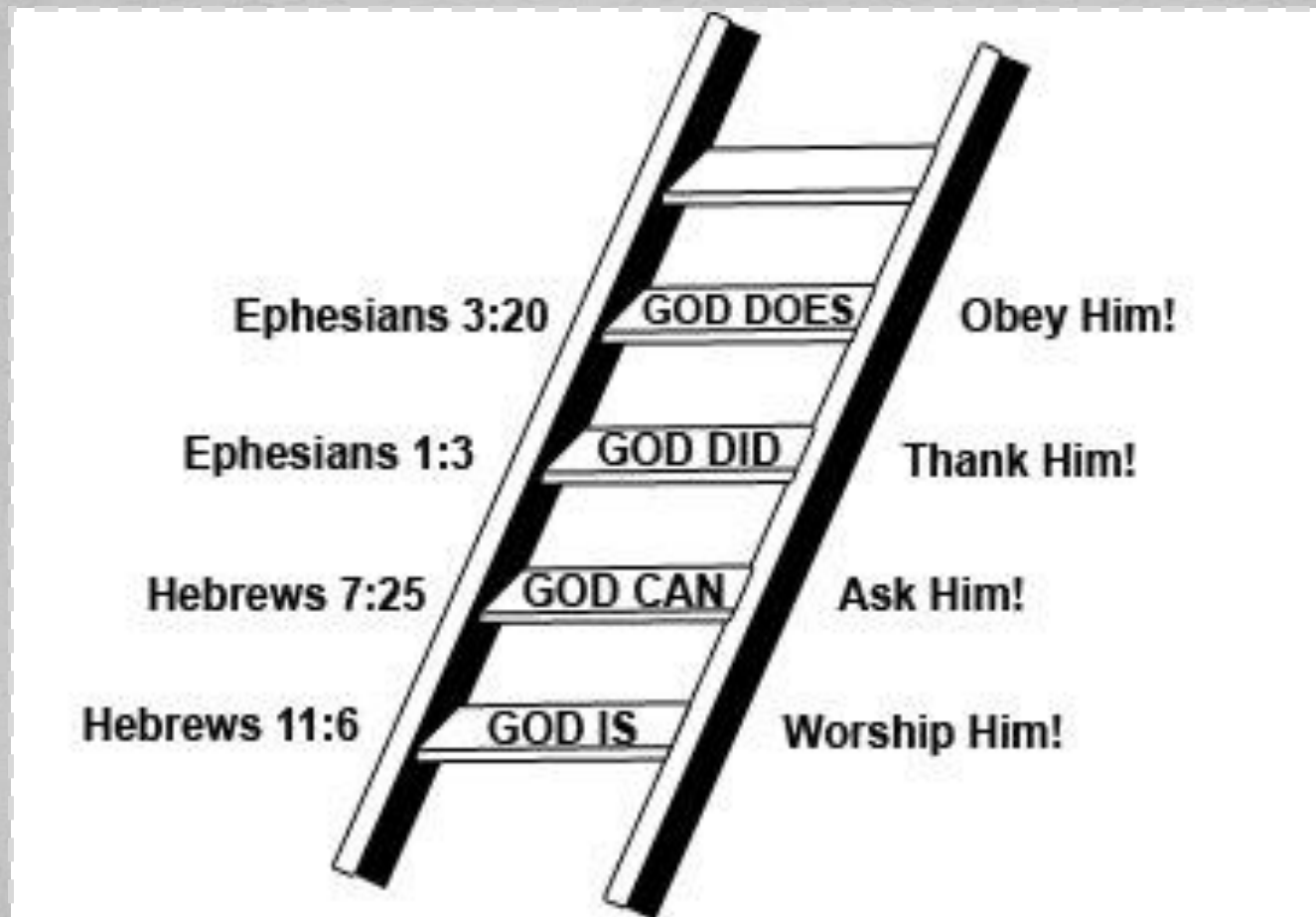
Ephesians 3:20 NKJV™

God's answers to prayer are more powerful than an atomic bomb, but have a totally opposite effect. God's answers are constructive, not destructive. They are life-giving, not deadly. They are available everywhere, and not limited geographically.



- Immeasurably above all we imagine
- Immeasurably above all we ask
- Abundantly above all we ask
- Above all that we ask
- All that we ask
- What we ask

## C. Prayer Action: Obey Him.



1. The size of God's answers is limited by the power of God that we allow to work in us.

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.”

Ephesians 3:20 NKJV™

## 2. Our obedience [affects] God's answers.

“Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.”

1 John 3:21,22 NKJV™

3. God's action is [**limited**] by our sinful attitudes and activities that:

a. Grieve the Spirit

“And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”

Ephesians 4:30 NKJV™

b. Quench the Spirit

“Do not quench the Spirit.”

1 Thessalonians 5:19 NKJV™

c. Doubt the Lord

“And He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.”

Matthew 13:58 NKJV™

4. God gives us instruction through His Word, through our conscience, or through godly counsel while we are praying. Doing what He tells us to do allows Him to guide us in prayer. Refusal to do so prevents further progress.

Peter made his biggest catch of fish when  
he [obeyed] Jesus. (Luke 5:1-11)

# Conclusion:

Our growth in faith is affected by our cooperation with Him.

**End of Seminar 2**  
**Session 5**