

JAMES

MARK IT UP

James 5:13-20 Discussion Guide

Week of 5/29/22

Icebreaker: How would you describe your “prayer life”? Is it strong, pretty good, inconsistent, nonexistent, etc.? If you feel comfortable, explain your answer.

Getting Started: Read James 5:13-20 as a group.

Back in week 2 we highlighted [Calvary's Shaping Value](#) of *Prayer in Faith*. We return to it again this final week of the series as James again emphasizes the importance of prayer in our lives.

Prayer in Faith: We believe God accomplishes His will through our prayers.

1. The word “pray” and/or “prayer” shows up seven times in these verses. What different situations or forms of prayer do you see represented in this passage?

Application: In what situations or circumstances in life do you find it most natural to pray?

2. Verse 13 contains a call for James’s audience to pray according to their personal experience of suffering or cheerfulness; however, verse 14 calls them to ask others (the elders) to pray for them. Why do you think James would specifically ask the elders to do this?

Application: Do you find it easy to ask others to pray for you? Why?

3. Verses 15-16 can sound like a promise that (1) every prayer made with enough faith will lead to healing, and (2) that sickness is the result of sin. What do you think about these?

Application: What do you think we should expect from God when we pray “in faith”?

4. Application: James calls his listeners to confess their sins to each other and pray for each other in verse 16. How do you think we’re doing at putting this into practice?

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fully devoted to loving God and loving others.*

5. Application: Verses 16-18 demonstrate how “The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.” What is your prayer today that you would hope to see God answer in a way that He answered Elijah’s?

6. Application: After all has been said, verses 19-20 are James’s final encouragement for his audience to not give up on those who have walked away from the faith. Who do you know who has wandered off from the gospel?

Consider praying for them if you’re not already, as well as for yourself, that you would have wisdom and courage related to how you might reach out to them.