

# TEACH US TO PRAY

## Week 6 Discussion Questions

### Prayer of Confession

James 5:13-20

#### Icebreaker:

Share one way you have seen God working or an answer to prayer you have received from God this week.

#### Read this week's passage (James 5:13-20).

What stands out to you from the passage or sermon this week?

**Recap:** What is the purpose of prayer (especially considering what we've learned over the past five weeks in this series)?

In verse 5:13, James uses rhetorical questions to emphasize our need to pray in every situation. In what situations in life are you most likely to remember to pray and in what situations in your life is prayer absent?

At Calvary, we believe that God accomplishes His will through our prayers. What do we learn about God's heart and his will for us through James' example of prayer in this passage?

God Hears the hurting and the happy--God welcomes prayers across the spectrum. God upholds the sick and the weak. He welcomes the broken. He longs for our holiness and offers forgiveness of our sins and healing.

James 5:15-16 tells us about the power of confessional prayer and confession to one another. What is the purpose of confession? (Ref. 1 John 1:5-9)

Confession is a step toward mending a broken relationship. Sin separates us from God, confession brings sin into the light so that it might be purified by God. Psalm 66:18 tells us that confession is a form of humility before God, recognizing our need for him.

What has the practice of confession looked like in your life?

What keeps you from confessing your sins to God or to fellow believers?

What kind of environment would make you more willing to engage in this faith practice?

Have you ever experienced the power and freedom that comes through the practice of confession and forgiveness?