



JAMES

The Prayer of Faith

5:13-18

Where FAITH becomes ACTION

J A M E S 5 : 1 3 - 1 8

So Far:

Be Patient therefore.....

- right after passage on injustice
- God is returning, setting it right

Establish your Heart

- grounded and trusting

Avoid grumbling against one another

- easy to blame or compare

Avoid making oaths

- serious to invoke oath by God's name



JAMES 5:13-18

Today – Big Idea... Just Pray!

"Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.



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¹⁶Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit."



JAMES 5:13-18

1. Anyone Suffering?

- knew this the case, many reasons
- our natural response:
 - curse and doubt God - blame
 - conquer or control – own hands
 - run away – abandon & hide
- take it to God
 - can remove affliction or bring grace
- no outcome promised



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- Phil. 4:5-7 ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."



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2. Anyone Cheerful

- love the recognition, seasons in life
- Ecc. 3:1-8 – season for everything
- don't brag, take credit, boast
- praise God – offer thanks and credit to him

Psalm 47:1 "Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!"

47:6-7 "Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

⁷For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm! "



JAMES 5:13-18

3. Anyone Sick

- call the elders of the church to pray
 - mature believers, caring, shepherding
 - easy to lose perspective when sick
 - aspect of humility and dependence
- anoint with oil – symbol of Holy Spirit
- prayer of faith
 - discernment about God's will
 - confidence in God's ability
 - willing for God's outcome



JAMES 5:13-18

- healing
- partial here, complete there

4. Confess Your Sin

- open to one another about struggles
- pray for one another – uphold and care
- accountable to....
 - repent – turn from that which destroys
 - receive – live in forgiveness and defeat the lies that say otherwise
- that you might be healed



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5. Prayer of Righteous has Great Power

a) No Self Righteousness

- cannot clean ourselves up for God

- Rom. 3:23-24 *"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus"*

b) Great Power

- God is responsive to His children



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- John 14:12-14 *“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.*

¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

c) Look at Elijah

- persisting in prayer
- drought & rain



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So What?

1. Responding to Life will happen
 - natural responses opposite Godly
2. Take your struggles to God
3. Celebrate the gifts of God in Good days
4. Take your Sickness to God
 - elders, anointing, praying
5. Do Life in Community
 - be known, pray for one another
6. Prayer is a Powerful Thing

