November 19 & 22, 2026
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James | Faith That Works – Week 10
“How Prayer Works”

James 5:13 (NIV)
Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

1. **Prayer should be our first “Priority” in every circumstance.**

    - Your first response in trouble will often reveal the object of your faith.

    - A persevering life is a prayerful life.

James 5:14-15 (NIV)
Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. **15** And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

2. **Prayer should be focused on the purposes of God.**

    - The primary purpose of God is His glory and the redemption of mankind.

    - Powerful prayers come from not just reading the Bible but praying the Bible.

James 5:16-18 (NIV)
Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

17 Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. **18** Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

3. **Prayer should be persistent.**

Many times God needs to do something in us before he does something in the one we are praying for.

4. **Prayer should be penitent.**

James 5:16 (NIV)
Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

- Pride is the mortal enemy to prayer.