



TALK LESS PRAY MORE

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 • Pastor Josiah Kagin

Text: James 5:13-20

Title: How the Life of Faith Works

Introduction:

The book of James was penned under inspiration of the Holy Spirit through by Pastor James, the half-brother of Jesus Christ. As the pastor of the Church at Jerusalem, he was influential in the lives and faith of the Jewish believers that had been scattered abroad due to intense persecution. The main point of this book was to address the issue of faith and works. The main take away from this important, practical book is that true faith works. The theme was not so much faith and works, but *faith that works*. It is fitting that the conclusion all the differing admonition concerning faith should be a call to simple faith-filled prayer. James use the Old Testament example of Elijah as a relatable illustration about the incredible impact of prayer offered by a normal man who believed God. We should be encouraged that we have the same opportunity to see God work wonders through the *fervent prayer* of believers just like you.

1. Prayer is for _____ Times (13-16)

A. In _____ (13)

James 5:13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray...

DEFINITION—AFFLICTED: to suffer (pain) v. — to experience harm or emotional pain.

*Philippians 2:14-16 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:
15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye*

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shine as lights in the world; 16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

B. In _____ (13)

James 5:13 ... Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

DEFINITION—SING: sing praise

C. In _____ (14-15)

James 5:14-15 Is any sick among you? 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 shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

DEFINITION—SICK: to be sick (exhausted); to be sick and perhaps tired and worn out; fatigued

Hebrews 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

QUOTE: James was not referring to the bedfast, the diseased, or the ill. Instead he wrote to those who had grown weary, who had become weak both morally and spiritually in the midst of suffering. —J.R. Blue

D. In _____ (14-15)

James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.

DEFINITION—CONFESS: acknowledge

Psalms 51:4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, And done this evil in thy sight:

DEFINITION—FAULTS: transgression n. — the action of going beyond or overstepping some moral boundary or limit.

James 5:19–20 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; 20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

QUOTE: A lost sheep is saved from destruction and his sins (the sins of the restored one, not the restorer) are covered as if a veil were thrown over them.—J.R. Blue

2. Prayer is _____ to do Much (16)

A. An Essential _____ (16b)

James 5:16b ... The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

DEFINITION—EFFECTUAL FERVENT: to function; to do what something is used for; perform as expected when operating.

DEFINITION—RIGHTEOUS MAN: a person characterized by righteous actions and morals.

Psalms 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear me:

NOTE — Prayer from the life and lips of a godly man or woman is powerful and impactful.

QUOTE: The greatest and the best talent that God gives to any man or woman in this world is the talent to pray. —Alexander Whyte.

B. An _____ Reality (16b)

James 5:16 The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

DEFINITION—AVAILETH: to be able; to be or become sufficient to meet a need or task.

James 5:17–18 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

DEFINITION—PASSION: like-emotioned; characterized by having the same emotional constitution or physical circumstances.

NOTE — Elijah knew what it was to be hated by the wicked politicians of the day, depressed and ready to quit, fearful and yet as a righteous man he prayed and it was sufficient meet the situation in from of him.

Conclusion

