

# S.A.F.E. Homes



**“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16**

## Praying Earnestly

Elijah was a prophet that God used mightily! ***“And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word”*** (I Kings 17:1).

Imagine that! Elijah was telling the king that there would be no rain until he said so! And for the next three and a half years, there was not a drop of rain. Then, once again, Elijah stood before Ahab and prophesied, saying “get thee up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of abundance of rain.”

So while Ahab went to eat and drink, Elijah went to the top of Mt. Carmel and prayed for rain. He didn't pray half-heartedly, but he prayed with purpose and determination. Six times Elijah sent his servant to look for signs of rain, and each time he came back with the same report...no rain! But the seventh time he had something different to tell Elijah. He saw a little cloud about the size of a man's hand.

Soon the sky turned black with clouds and the wind began to blow. It wasn't long until there was a downpour of rain! Imagine that! All because of the prayers of a man of God!


Even though Elijah already had the promise of God that it would rain again, he still had to pray for it! Not a casual prayer, but a passionate prayer. He prayed earnestly!

When you read God's Word and claim his promises for your life, you can count on them coming to pass. If God said it, it is going to happen, no matter how it looks. Keep on trusting in Him, and keep on praying...just like Elijah did!

**Family Prayer: Lord, I'm so thankful that I can trust Your promises. Teach me to pray like Elijah, earnestly and effectively. In Jesus' Name, Amen!**



Includes  
Family  
Activities



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Bonus Pages

Looking



If you don't already have one, begin a prayer journal where you can record special needs you have prayed about. You can do this individually or as a family. Have a section to record answered prayers. It's so easy to forget what God has already done for us. This will be a great reminder!

Let's talk

It has often been said that God's answer to prayer can be "yes," "no," or "wait." As a family discuss times when God has answered your prayers in each of these ways. Remember, even though Elijah knew God would answer, he kept praying, earnestly!



Send a card to someone to let them know that you are praying for them this week. Maybe you can design and decorate your own original card and have each family member sign it. In this day of electronics this would be a special keepsake for someone!

Looking



## Additional Challenges

Even though our devotional emphasis is on prayer this week, our focus verse also mentions “Confess your faults one to another...that ye may be healed.”

In your own words, what do you think this means?

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**Check out these verses:**

### Proverbs 28:13

He that \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ shall not \_\_\_\_\_ :  
but whoso \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ them shall have  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### Psalms 32:5

I acknowledged my \_\_\_\_\_ unto thee, and mine \_\_\_\_\_ have I not \_\_\_\_\_. I said,  
I will \_\_\_\_\_ my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou \_\_\_\_\_ the  
iniquity of my sin. Selah.

### Genesis 3:8

When Adam and Eve sinned, they tried to hide from God. Is this possible to do? \_\_\_\_\_

Some things can hinder our prayers. What does Matthew 5:23-24 teach us?

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*Don't let anything keep you from praying fervently and effectively!*

*Find the hidden message*

G P H E R S P P A Y W I T H E  
N O D A S U U U R T C E A T S  
I I E R J E N O R O G L A C T  
T V L N Y I V H E P M N F R N  
S T A E E D L E S T O I Y W E  
U E E S O V R E N I H S S C V  
R H H T C T N O S T Z G E E R  
T P L L Q I N S W R H H I S E  
J O Y Y A F A A P R A Y E R F  
C R J R X P O L D C L A I M E  
Z P D E T E R M I N A T I O N  
Y R O C K H E A J K U B Z B Y  
S J L A U T C E F F E B Z C X  
A N A N J H T R B Z N D A W G  
Z Z Q H G L S V N C M N N E G

ABUNDANT  
EARNESTLY  
FERVENT  
PRAYER  
PURPOSE  
SEVENTH

CLAIM  
EFFECTUAL  
HEALED  
PROMISE  
RAIN  
TRUSTING

DETERMINATION  
ELIJAH  
PASSIONATE  
PROPHET  
RIGHTEOUS  
WORD





God Hears and Answers Prayer