

Prayer is Doing Life with God James 5:13-18

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Take-Home Truth: Prayer is doing life with God.

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴Is 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. ¹⁵And 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. 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 now 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 (English Standard Version)

Key Point #1: Life with God responds prayerfully through thick and thin.

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. James 5:13 (ESV)

Prayer Tip #1: Schedule times to talk with God

Prayer Tip #2: Remember to say "Thank You"

Key Point #2: Prayers of healing happen in community.

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. ¹⁵And 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. ¹⁶Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. James 5:14-16a (ESV)

Prayer Tip #3: Initiate prayer with others

Prayer Tip #4: Be honest

Key Point #3: Effective prayer does not depend on our spiritual maturity.

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 5:16b-18 (ESV)

Prayer Tip #4: Run to God when you fail

Activity: Lighthouse Prayer Walk (Inside)