

James 5:13-18

Pg 1013

Title: Prayer unleashes God's Power

**Aim: In order to see God heal and save people,
we who know God must pray in faith.**

I. Is Prayer Necessary? (13-14)

- A. What is Prayer

- B. Why Prayer is Necessary

- C. Who Prays

II. Why MUST Prayer Be Accompanied by Faith? (15)

- A. Because of what's at stake — sickness and sin both lead to death

III. What are Christians Called to? (16-18)

- A. Seek healing by confessing our sins to one another and praying for one another (16a)

- B. Know that the prayer of righteous people has great power as it is working (16b)

- C. Remember the teaching of Scripture and pray in faith (17-18)

Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. What is the basic principle underlying v. 13? Why does James emphasize the individual's responsibility in vv. 13-14a?

2. In vv. 14b James calls for the elders involvement in praying for healing. Why is this so controversial? What would you say to someone who says call the doctor, not your church leaders?

3. In the light of verse 15, how do we explain the fact that so many of these prayers seem to go unanswered?

4. What does v. 16, contribute to this passage? Why is it the key to understanding this passage?

5. Discuss why Elijah is such a good example for us to learn from, v. 17-18? In what ways do prayer and patience belong together? Why is this so important?