

THE POWER OF Prayer

CONNECTING WITH GOD. CHANGING EVERYTHING.



MAIN SCRIPTURE

JAMES 5:13-18



13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. **14** 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. **16** 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.



Instead of an _____ to turn to God we inherited a different nature a different instinct one of _____.



1. TROUBLE

We live in a world that has been distorted because of sin so, trouble _____.

“Prayer is not evidence that you lack faith. Prayer is an _____. When I pray, I am acknowledging that I need God, that I trust God, and that I want God involved in what I am facing.”

God _____ us to pray, the enemy _____ us to pray, so what should you do?

Prayer is not merely asking God to solve a problem. Prayer is bringing the whole of our lives into _____ Him. Wouldn't it be amazing if prayer was more than just our _____?



2. HAPPY

James is speaking of 2 different states of mind or heart. There will be days when you are feeling like the world is _____, and there will be days when you feel like the world _____ you.

We need transformation because the response of a disciple of Jesus shouldn't be self sufficiency when there isn't _____ to deal with.



3. SICK

This is a broad term meaning to be _____ or _____ a physical condition.

James isn't trying to help us diagnose ourselves. He's telling us what to do when weakness _____.

James seems to be placing the _____ of this on the sick person rather than on the elders

We are instructed if you are sick... lacking strength set your pride aside and _____.

Rather than blame ourselves or somebody else for lacking faith, which none of us have the right to measure, let us rest in the truth that God is sovereign and there will be times where His plan and ours don't line up,

Prayer always includes an act of humility



4. SIN

Sometimes sin is hard to deal with. Sometimes we are so ashamed of our failure that we want to hide, sometimes we're so selfish that we don't want to give up what we know He wants us to give up, sometimes we have sinned a repeated sin and our pride keeps us from approaching Him.

A recurring theme, lay down your pride and be open, to one another and to God.



5. THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN ARE POWERFUL AND AFFECTIVE.

“ The Lord looks down from heaven on all mankind to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. 3 All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Psalms 14:2-3

Just because we have been given Jesus' righteousness doesn't mean our connection with God and His heart is unhindered sin gets in the way of what we pray and how we pray.



APPLICATION



What is the obstacle of prayer?

The obstacle of prayer is _____.

If you don't pray the enemy has you right where he wants you. Recognize your pride and set it aside.



What makes prayer weak?

Sin keeps us from understanding God's heart and therefore leads us to pray for the wrong things.

_____ from God and prayer is one of the greatest connections to God.



What makes prayer powerful?

We may speak of the power of prayer but the truth is prayer _____ it is simply the outlet

_____ is the power in prayer our job is to _____.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Prayer is not evidence that you lack faith. Prayer is an _____.
- Prayer isn't our panic button; it's our _____.
- _____ isn't the power. _____ is the power. Prayer is the connection.

