

A Church Praying for the Right Things

James 5:14-16

1. Do you really believe you and your prayers have power?
 - a. We think of ourselves less than: “There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.” (Number 13:33, NKJV)
 - b. Circumstances can make our faith waiver: “23) Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” 24) Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” (Mark 9:23-24, NKJV)
 - c. You can think too much of yourself: “11) The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: ‘I thank you, God, that I am not like other people cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I’m certainly not like that tax collector! 12) I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.’” (Luke 18:11-12, NLT)
 - d. The power of prayer is in the “Who” we are praying to: “Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.” (Mark 11:24, NKJV).
2. What should we be praying about?
 - a. “Is anyone among you sick?...” (James 5:14, NIV)
 - b. Don’t just think of “sick” to mean illness only, but whatever ever concerns and/or distresses you.
 - c. “In my distress I cried unto the Lord, and he heard me.” (Psalms 120:1, KJV)

d. If it bothers or can affect you, pray about it.

3. Who can pray?

a. "...Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them..." (James 5:14, NIV)

b. Elders are those who believe in the power of prayer: "...The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16, NIV)

c. God does not hear a prayer better because somebody has a title.

i. "At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split" (Matthew 27:51, NIV).

ii. "For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility." (Ephesians 2:14, NIV)

iii. "For there is no respect of persons with God." (Romans 2:11, KJV)

4. What are some things the church should be praying for next week?

a. Pray for a Prosperous Community.

i. If the community is good, the church will be good.

ii. "4) So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing 5) and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done." (Exodus 36:4-5, NIV)

iii. Prosperity will be reciprocated: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in

my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” (Micah 3:10, NIV)

b. Pray for Prosperous Health

- i. “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” (James 5:14, NIV)
- ii. “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” (James 5:15, NIV)
- iii. “Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.” (3 John 1:2, NKJV)

c. Pray for Prosperous Mental Health

- i. “You will keep the mind that is dependent on you in perfect peace, for it is trusting in you.” (Isaiah 26:3, CSB)
- ii. “7) And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8) Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” (Philippians 4:7-8), ESV)

iii. “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” (2 Timothy 1:7, NKJV)

d. Pray for Salvation

- i. “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.” (James 5:15-16, NIV)
- ii. “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9, KJV)

The Plan of Salvation

The Roman Road

God tells us in the Bible how we can come to Him by being saved through Jesus Christ His Son. The proceeding salvation plan lays out the way you can know you will have eternal life in Jesus and have a lasting relationship with the Father.

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

If you would like to accept Jesus now, please pray the following prayer:

“Dear God, I know I have sinned and I am asking for your forgiveness. I believe Jesus died for my sins and I now accept your offer of salvation.”