

“Good Old-Fashioned Prayer”

Sermon Discussion Questions on James 5:13-20

Note: *To give & receive the greatest benefit from this discussion, please review your own sermon notes, read & reflect on these discussion questions in advance.*

1. Share an experience when you engaged in fervent prayer i.e. personal crisis, church problems, national or international threat, great undertaking, thanksgiving etc.
 - * In retrospect, what happened to you, others or the situation as a result?
2. Someone read **James 5:13-16** and note 3 situations that should drive us to pray.
 - * List some troubles that we can pray about (personal, church, nation, world). **Psalm 142:1-2.**
 - * List some joyful blessings for which we can praise God. **Psalm 103:1-5.**
 - * List some sicknesses for which we might ask the elders to pray & anoint us. **John 9:1-3.**
3. Why don't we see more dramatic results from prayer today?
 - * Consider the requirements listed for effective prayer i.e. faith, confession, righteousness.
 - * Compare these passages and discuss the implications: Psalm 66:18-19; 1 John 3:21-22; 1 Timothy 2:8.
4. Someone read **James 5:17-18.**
 - * Someone else Google Elijah and share a few things about him (note especially incidents recorded in **1 Kings 17-18**).
 - * Why do you think James uses this prophet as an example of prayer?
5. Someone read **James 5:19-20.**
 - * Who do you know that is “wondering from the truth” right now and what are they doing?
 - * What is at stake for them?
 - * Taking James' words to heart, how might we work together to turn these wanderers from the error of their ways?