

“Nothing is more important in the life of the Christian than that there should be a right understanding of, and a regular engaging in, the privilege of prayer.” – Francis Dixon

Don’t just say it – PRAY IT!
James 5:13-18

James 5:13-18 (NIV)

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 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. 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. 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. 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. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

I. Make prayer your first response in every circumstance.

- Seasons of Suffering

Verse 13a – Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray.

- Seasons of Satisfaction

Verse 13b – “Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. “

- Seasons of Sickness

Verse 14 & 15a – 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. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up.

- Seasons of Struggle

Verse 15b &16 – "If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

II. Make your prayer life consistent with God's word.

- Learn to Pray Honestly

Verse 16 – "Therefore, confess your sins to each other…"

- Learn to Pray Selflessly

Verse 16 – "…and pray for each other."

- Learn to Pray Righteously

Verse 16 – "…The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

- Learn to Pray Earnestly

Verse 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."

Andrew Murray

"Your Christian life will either flourish or decay according to how much or how little you pray"