

March 12, 2023

**Prayer**  
**James 5:13-20**  
**Pastor Kirk Gambrell**

Vol. 13 Num. 11

## Using This Study

### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

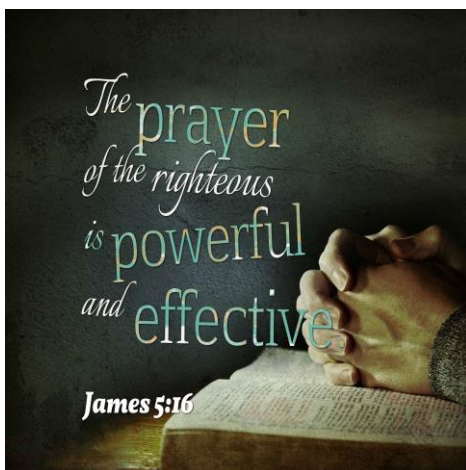
What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we will finish the book of James. This last section of James is a very popular section on prayer. James says that if we are suffering, we should pray, and if we are sick, we should call the elders to pray. He then goes on to reference Elijah and the power of Elijah's prayers. Elijah the prophet prayed for the rain to stop and then 3 and a half years later prayed for rain and there was a huge downpour. Prayer is powerful and effective. Join us this week as we look at this passage and its insights into prayer.



## **Prayer for the Sick**

13 Is anyone among you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone in good spirits? He should sing praises. 14 Is anyone among you ill? He should summon the elders of the church, and they should pray for him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick and the Lord will raise him up – and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 So confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great effectiveness. 17 Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain and there was no rain on the land for three years and six months! 18 Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the land sprouted with a harvest.

19 My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone turns him back, 20 he should know that the one who turns a sinner back from his wandering path will save that person's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

**o EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.**

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

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7.

8.

9.

10.

**2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
What does God MEAN?

1. What should we do if we are suffering? What if we are in good spirits?
2. What should we do if we are sick?
3. What is the purpose of anointing with oil?
4. Why do you think Elijah is referenced here?
5. What does it mean to wonder from the truth?

③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)  
Why does this MATTER to me?

6. How do we reconcile this passage with our unanswered prayers?

7. To whom should we confess our sins?

8. Does confession of sin have any relation to unanswered prayers?

9. How should we treat those that have wandered from the truth?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

**Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...**

*Sermon Notes*