

Practical Instructions for Real Life When I Pray

James 5:13-16

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Then he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; ¹⁵ and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

Our desire is to have a strong and effective prayer. What do we need to do in order to be heard by God? How do we get God to intervene? Both are very common questions when it comes to prayer. However, the reality is that we need to be in such a close relationship with God that we are being molded by Him. When we are, our concerns will be more related to what does God wants for my life and how do I bend myself to His will?

James tells me

1. My relationship is important in prayer.

Isaiah 59:2, 1 Peter 3:12, Psalm 34:15, Jeremiah 23:6, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 5:22-23, James 1:5, 3:13, Romans 8:29, John 15:5

2. My faith is important in prayer.

James 1:6, Hebrews 11:6, Matthew 7:11, 17:20, 21:22

3. To pray at all times.

Hebrews 4:16, 1 Thessalonians 5:17

In times of trouble.

In times of joy.

In times of sickness.

In times of failure.