

James: Season3 – A Faith that Walks; A Life of Prayer (chp5)!

1. The Prayer Life of the Righteous

A. Keep your _____ (vs.12)

1. Don't swear, make oaths, was common practice, not wrong to do, but God holds you to it
*court, marriage, being ordained – good; but wrong when used to deceive, or rash decision
2. Keep your word/promises to God; our word should be greater than a binding document
3. *Side note:* your marriage vow is extremely serious to God!

B. Prayer in _____ **abuse, persecution, trials for Christ's sake* (vs.13a)

1. God wants us to come to Him, in suffering (both suffered greatly; ***Phil4:4-7; 1Thess5:16-18***)
2. How does a godly farmer wait for the harvest of the crop? _____
3. See vs.7-11; these people are suffering, how do they wait on the Lord to work? How do they wait for His return, when all will be made right? _____

C. Prayer in _____ (vs.13b)

1. When things are going well, God wants us to sing! Sing praises to Him; praises of worship and thanksgiving – singing praises is prayer – do you realize when you sing here, it's a prayer?
2. Why do we tend to pray less, when things are going well; and pray more when trouble comes? **look* at the prayer life of this righteous man (***Dan6:7-10***)

D. Prayer for the _____ (vs.14-16a)

1. Sick: used in 2 ways in Scripture – physical sickness and emotional/spiritual weakness
*here it seems to refer to both, we see words, healed and restoration (raised up)
2. Call for the elders to pray over you in these 2 situations
*How many believers stay beat down in life, because they don't heed this command!
3. Notice the steps: *call for the elders; they come, anoint with oil, confess sins, *if any*, pray over for restoration, healing, and the Lord will raise him/her up
4. What is the goal here? _____ *****Rom15:13; Rom5:3-5**
**KEY:* so that *in* the sickness and/or suffering, we walk in strength, power, joy and hope!
5. Does God always heal the sick? _____

_____ **Heb11:28-40 shows us God physically delivers some, and some He does not*

E. Prayer for the _____ (vs.19-20) ****Rom9:1-3; Rom10:1; Lk15:4-7*** – *this is what God is doing now!*

2. Keys to Effective Prayer

A. Are your prayers _____ (Gk. energy)? (vs.16)

1. a righteous person prays _____ and sees God's power ****1Jn5:14-15***
2. a righteous person prays until God answers and does not give up ****1Thess5:17; Rom4:18-22***

B. Are you living a _____ life? (vs.16) ****James5:16; Is59:2; Malachi 2:13-16***

**sin grieves the Holy Spirit and hinders God hearing and answering our prayers!*

C. Are you praying _____? (vs.17-18) ****Lk18:1-8***

*****JOIN:** Prayer meeting Wednesday; Life Groups study on prayer; things coming that will bring us to prayer!