



THE PRIVILEGE AND POWER OF PRAYER

Scriptures for further study

Scriptures for further study: Proverbs 15:29 | Hebrews 10:19-22 | 1 John 5:14-15

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“God desires prayers that are faith-filled and faithful.”

1. When do you first remember praying? How did you learn what it meant to pray? What drives people to pray?
2. In James 5:13-18, James is giving explicit directions for prayer and praying. He begins by mentioning suffering. In what ways have you experienced suffering? What was the first thing that you did? According to verse 13, what should you have done? In what ways have you been cheerful? What was the first thing that you did? According to verse 13, what should you have done?
3. Should certain situations in our lives lead us to pray with greater frequency and intensity? Why or why not? In verse 14, who did James put the responsibility on and why is this important? What are we missing when we don't partner our prayers with action?
4. How would you respond to someone who believed that ongoing sickness was a result of a lack of faith or that, with enough faith, God would heal them?
5. In the context of verse 16, what does the word “righteous” mean? Why would the prayer of a righteous person be more effective? James uses Elijah as an example. Who comes to your mind when you think of a dedicated person of prayer? What could you learn about prayer by observing their life?
6. Do you feel comfortable expressing your prayer needs to your Adult Life Group? Why or why not? What are some ideas that would encourage groups to share prayer requests and prayer time together? In what ways do your prayers need to be coupled with actions?
7. What would it look like to regularly devote time to praying for specific people in need of the gospel of Jesus Christ?