

**James: Doing > Hearing**  
*Doing Life Together*  
 James 5:12-20

Is James saying that Christians can lose their salvation?

- The hard warnings in scripture about God's angry response to sin is not limited to \_\_\_\_\_.
- We can so emphasize the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, we lose sight of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
- Christ followers will certainly never face God's wrath in hell, but that doesn't mean we will not face his anger and judgment in the form of severe, yet loving, \_\_\_\_\_. (**Hebrews 12:3-17**)

James' primary point in the closing section of his letter:

**Spiritual maturity happens in \_\_\_\_\_.**

We simply cannot grow up in Christ, unless we grow \_\_\_\_\_. (cf. **Ephesians 4:1-16**)

### FOUR ESSENTIALS OF BIBLICAL COMMUNITY

**1. \_\_\_\_\_: Community begins with \_\_\_\_\_. (5:12)**

When it comes to community, \_\_\_\_\_ means everything.

When we \_\_\_\_\_, we lack integrity, and without integrity, there is no basis for community.

Biblical community is destroyed by spiritual \_\_\_\_\_, when our true self is very different from our public self.

**2. \_\_\_\_\_: Community thrives on \_\_\_\_\_. (5:13-15)**

The most telling sign of pride in the Christian's life – a lack of \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Is anyone among you suffering?"*

*"Is anyone cheerful?"*

*"Is any among you sick?"*

***"IF he has sinned, he will be forgiven?"***

## Prayer for Healing

*“pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord...the prayer of faith”*

The prayer of faith while anointing in the name of the Lord means praying for God's \_\_\_\_\_ (not our will), based on God's \_\_\_\_\_ (not our merit), for the sake of God's \_\_\_\_\_ (not our reputation), so that God's answer \_\_\_\_\_ God's glory, and he \_\_\_\_\_ glory through worship from those who witness what he's done.

*“the prayer of faith will save (deliver) the one who is sick and the Lord will lift him up”*

To be saved or delivered, in this context, does not necessarily mean to be saved from hell, or even a guarantee of physical healing in this life. God promises that every Christian will be healed physically, in the ultimate sense, in the \_\_\_\_\_. The primary point James is making here is, in the threat of a serious illness, the believe will be delivered from spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (**James 1:2-4; 2 Corinthians 12:3-10**)

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_: **Community health requires** \_\_\_\_\_. (5:16-18)

I should confess my sin to those who have been \_\_\_\_\_ by my sin.

A good rule of thumb is: Let your repentance be as \_\_\_\_\_ as your sin. When it comes to sin like gossip, confession may need to be extensive.

Acknowledging a sin to a trusted brother or sister in Christ can be a very important step in \_\_\_\_\_ a sin.

*“the prayer of a righteous person has great power”*

*“he prayed fervently”* (lit. *he prayed with prayer*) This was James' way of expressing the Hebrew idiom in **1 Kings 18:42**, where Elijah *“put his head between his knees”* as he cried out to God to restore the rains after defeating the prophets of Baal on Mt Carmel.

### 4. \_\_\_\_\_: **Community cares enough to** \_\_\_\_\_. (5:19-20)

Wise, caring intervention is an integral part of \_\_\_\_\_.

*“save his soul from death”* (**James 1:13-15; 1 John 5:16-17**)

*“cover a multitude of sins”*

Healthy \_\_\_\_\_ with one another is inseparably linked to healthy \_\_\_\_\_ with God.

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- The hard warnings in scripture about God's angry response to sin is not limited to **unbelievers**.
- We can so emphasize the **goodness** of God, we lose sight of the **Godness** of God.
- Christ followers will certainly never face God's wrath in hell, but that doesn't mean we will not face his anger and judgment in the form of severe, yet loving, **discipline**. (cf. **Hebrews 12:3-17**)

James' primary point in the closing section of his letter:

**Spiritual maturity happens in biblical community.**

We simply cannot grow up in Christ, unless we grow **together**. (cf. **Ephesians 4:1-16**)

#### **FOUR ESSENTIALS OF BIBLICAL COMMUNITY**

**1. Integrity: Community begins with trust. (5:12)**

When it comes to community, **trust** means everything.

When we **pretend**, we lack integrity, and without integrity, there is no basis for community.

Biblical community is destroyed by spiritual **hypocrisy**, when our true self is very different from our public self.

**2. Prayer: Community thrives on humility. (5:13-15)**

The most telling sign of pride in the Christian's life is a lack of **prayer**.

*"Is anyone among you suffering?"*

*"Is anyone cheerful?"*

*"Is any among you sick?"*

***IF** he has sinned, he will be forgiven?"*

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The “prayer of faith” while “anointing in the name of the Lord” means praying for God’s **will** (not our will), based on God’s **promises** (not our merit), for the sake of God’s **name** (not our reputation), so that God’s answer **reveals** God’s glory, and he **receives** glory through worship from those who witness what he’s done.

*“the prayer of faith will save (deliver) the one who is sick and the Lord will lift him up”*

To be saved or delivered, in this context, does not necessarily mean to be saved from hell, or even a guarantee of physical healing in this life. God promises that every Christian will be healed physically, in the ultimate sense, in the **resurrection**. The primary point James is making here is, in the threat of a serious illness, the believer will be delivered from spiritual **defeat** and **immaturity**. (**James 1:2-4; 2 Corinthians 12:3-10**)

### 3. **Confession: Community health requires transparency.** (5:16-18)

I should confess my sin to those who have been **affected** by my sin.

A good rule of thumb is: Let your repentance be as **widely known** as your sin. When it comes to sin like gossip, confession may need to be extensive.

Acknowledging a sin to a trusted brother or sister in Christ can be a very important step in **overcoming** a sin.

*“the prayer of a righteous person has great power”*

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### 4. **Accountability: Community cares enough to intervene.** (5:19-20)

Wise, caring intervention is an integral part of **love**.

*“save his soul from death”* (**James 1:13-15; 1 John 5:16-17**)

*“cover a multitude of sins”*

Healthy **communion** with one another is inseparably linked to healthy **communion** with God.