



UNLONELY

DYING TO BE TOGETHER : RISING TO THE OCCASION

05/03 • Un-Lonely: Part 4

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN, INDEED, HALLELUJAH!

Being alone does not necessarily mean being lonely. In fact, many pleasurable and productive actions often involve solitude: research, endurance exercise, art, and prayer. These actions are done alone, and with others. We are called to do both. **Read James 5:13-18.**

[This discussion sheet will prove more useful if you've listened to the corresponding message beforehand: <https://subsplash.com/nblc/sermons/ms/+7nrhk9p>].

1. How do you define prayer?
2. *If any of you suffer, pray* (James 5:13). During hard times, and lonely times, do you pray more or pray less? Why?
3. *If you're cheerful, sing* (James 5:13). Praise songs are prayers put to music. What are a few ways we can tap into the power of praise every day of the week?
4. ... *pray for one another...* (James 5:16). Do you find it easier to pray when with others or when you're alone?
There are special promises attached to both private prayer and group prayer. What are these promises ...
 - a. according to Matthew 6:6?
 - b. according to Matthew 18:19-20?
5. *the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick* (James 5:15). This verse raises questions and doubts. What is a prayer expressing faith ...
 - a. according to Luke 18:1?
 - b. according to Jesus example in Luke 22:42?
 - c. according to 2 Corinthians 12:8-9?
6. Each verse in the Bible is written to specific people with specific situations. Write in your own words the lesson taught in each of the following verses:
 - a. *You don't have because you don't ask* (James 4:2).
Lesson: _____
 - b. *You ask with the wrong motives* (James 4:3).
Lesson: _____
How does Psalm 37:4 help us pray better than described in James 4:3? What more does 1 John 5:14-15 add to how we want to pray (cf., Luke 22:2)?
 - c. *Abraham negotiated with God* (Genesis 18:20-33).
Lesson: _____
 - d. *Prayer changes God's mind* (Exodus 32:9-14; cf. Numbers 23:19).
Lesson: _____

- e. *God provides what you need before you ask* (Matthew 6:7-8).

Lesson: _____

How does Matthew 6:7 fit with Luke 18:1?

7. A significant benefit of praying for others is you take your mind off yourself, which is part of the sadness of loneliness.

Summary: Prayer is a God-given strategy to combat suffering of many kinds, including loneliness and/or depression. Those who pray together stay together; and they are together—in prayer—even when they're not physically together!

Prayer Requests

Did you see Norie's prayer video last week on our app and on Facebook?

- You can subscribe to ePrayers in order to join the 229 other people who pray for requests; just say you want to receive ePrayers by emailing FaithJourney@nblc.net.
- You can submit your own prayer requests by emailing ePrayers@nblc.net and the ePrayer group is ready to pray for you.

Pray for our nation/world to find remedies to the novel corona virus. Pray for those who are grieving losses: loved ones, work, ways-of-life. Pray for us as Christ-followers to remain steadfast in the WISDOM lifestyle of Worship, Inreach, Service, Disciplines, Outreach, and Multiplication (remember the videos by Travis?).

Praise List

Micah & Julie Thornton supplied our praise list:



- **Only God Knows by For King & Country**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fhS83a5Ky84>

Micah wanted to highlight the lines in this song that say God only know what you've been through. God only knows the real you. God only knows what they say of you, and there's a king of love that God ONLY knows.

- **Reckless Love by Cory Asbury**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GGJ8cyYNzQ>

Micah says, "I like the lines in this one that say, "before I breathe a breath, you breathe your life in me. The reckless love that chases me down and leaves the 99—I couldn't earn it and I don't deserve it."

- **Praise You In This Storm by Casting Crowns**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YUGwUgBvTU>

Micah chose this one because we all go through storms in our lives and we have a God who is right there with us and he is in complete control of our situation—whether we understand it or not.