

PRAYER FOR THE HURTING

James 5.12-20

PEOPLE OF INTEGRITY

James 5.12 // Matthew 5.34-37

James closes his letter with three closing statements, all that have to do with our speech: words of integrity towards everyone, prayers of faith for the weak, and conversations of grace towards sinners.

He first warns us not to swear or make frivolous oaths. Our words should be so backed by our integrity, there is no need to swear or make an oath.

Our integrity should be the backing that gives our “yes” the strength and trustworthiness of a legally binding contract.

PEOPLE OF FAITH

James 5.13-16

The word “sick” means “weak,” and could mean either physical or spiritual. No doubt the primary meaning here is physical, but the rest of the section from **verse 15** on seems to give it a double meaning.

Oil: there is nothing magical or special about oil, but it is a symbolic reminder.

Elders: likewise, the Elders are no more special or powerful than the rest of the body, but they symbolically represent the church family we are adopted into.

James 5.16-20 // Matthew 7.7-10

God told Elijah that He would make it rain, and so in faith, Elijah prayed for the rain, and it came. There was nothing special about Elijah, but the strength was in God’s promises.

PEOPLE OF GRACE

He ends with a very important exhortation: to graciously pursue those who are wandering from the truth. God is merciful and willing to heal our brokenness, and He wants to use *us* to see others healed of both their physical and spiritual weakness. But we must not make the mistake that we go in our own strength or in our own righteousness, but that we go in the Name of Jesus.

John 15.1-11



NOTES:

This Week’s Scripture to Memorize:

John 3:30

He must increase, but I must decrease.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We’d love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you’ll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

In our children’s ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, we have classes for **newborns-5th grade**, along with a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walk-through of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Katie McGinty at Katie@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th-8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their class with their teacher and classmates for the rest of the service. Visit our website to read more about our Junior High Ministry and a walk-through of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders** stay in the service with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate high school. Our **wid-week High School Ministry meets on Thursday Nights @7PM**, here at Classical Academy in the Study Hall. For more info or questions about our student ministries, email **Casey Barnes at Casey@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the Memory Verse?

Read **James 5.12-20**. What stuck out to you in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? _____

The overall tone of James' closing is an exhortation to be people of word and deed that are trustworthy, faith-filled, and gracious towards others. Throughout his letter, he has a big emphasis on our words. Why are our words so important, and how does the integrity of our words play a part in these exhortation to pray for others and seek out those wandering from their faith? _____

Read **James 5.16-18**. At first glance, how does prayer seem to work according to these two verses? _____

Often times, we think that if we simply "have enough faith" and are "good enough" we can arm wrestle God into giving us things, especially if we say the magic words, "in Jesus' Name." Read **1 Kings 18.1, 2**. What happened *before* Elijah prayed for rain? _____

Now read **John 15.1-11**. What key aspects of these verses give us insight into the power and effectiveness of prayer? _____

For our prayers to be effective, we must be abiding in the Vine. How does Jesus describe how we abide? _____

How was Elijah abiding in the Vine? _____

Going back to James, he says that "the prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." But the power is not in the person, but in God. So why does our righteousness and integrity (or in other words, our abiding in the Vine) bring about effectiveness in our prayers? _____

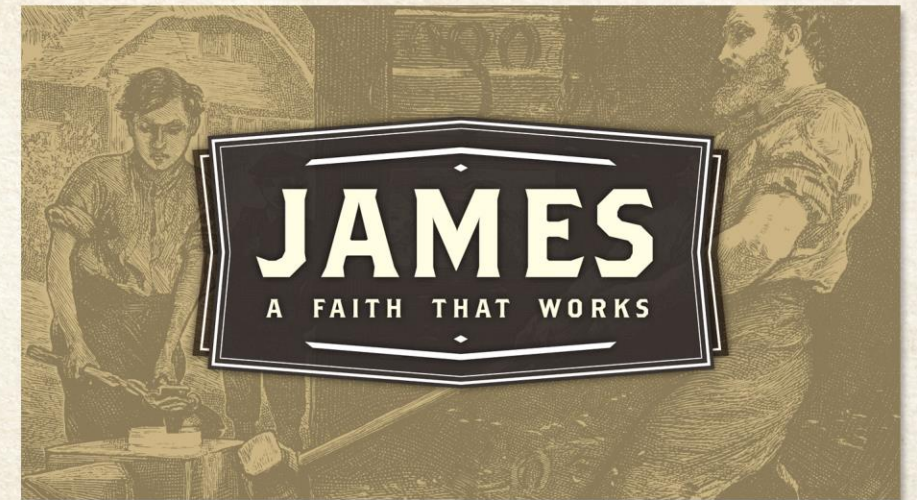
James tells us to confess sin to one another to find healing. He also says if we are sick we should pray for one another. Take time in your group confessing sin and spiritual weaknesses that you could use prayer for. If anyone is sick, pray for each other and ask that God would give a generous gift.



LIFE MISSION

C H U R C H

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.



PRAYER FOR THE HURTING

James 5:12-20 // September 17, 2017

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

