

Praying Powerfully

James 5:13-20

Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up.

James 5:13-15a

When To Pray Powerfully

1. When we are in trouble

I call on the LORD in my distress, and he answers me.

Psalm 120:1

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:2-4

To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Cor 12:7-10

2. When we are blessed

I will sing to the LORD, for he has been good to me.

Psalm 13:6

3. When we are sick

1) All sickness is the result of sin in the world

2) Sometimes sickness is a direct result of sin in our lives

A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.

1 Corinthians 11:28-30

3) Not all sickness is a direct result of sin in our lives

Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

Job 1:8

4) Sometimes sin comes from Satan

Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?

Luke 13:16

5) God can, and does, heal naturally

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick."

Matthew 9:12

6) God can, and does, heal supernaturally

7) It is not always God's will to heal

Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus.

2 Timothy 4:20

Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.

1 Timothy 5:23

8) Healing is a mercy, not a right we can expect to receive

Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow.

Philippians 2:27

9) Total healing is promised upon His return

10) Lack of faith does not cause failure to heal

Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up.

James 5:14-15a

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

Acts 10:38

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed.

Luke 4:18

They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

Mark 6:13

4. When have sinned

If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:15b-16

Who Can Pray Powerfully

Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

James 5:17-18

"I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."

1 Kings 19:4

Restoring Wanderers

My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

James 5:19-20

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.

Galatians 6:1

Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

2 Thessalonians 3:15

If your brother sins (against you), go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.

Matthew 18:15

a) Treat others as you would have them treat you

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 7:12

b) Speaking the truth in love

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

Ephesians 4:15

c) Never give up

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

In happy moments, praise God
In difficult moments, seek God
In quiet moments, worship God
In painful moments, trust God
In every moment, thank God

In all things have faith in God