

Living Faith Goes to Work

JAMES 5:13-20

A Transformative Faith Prays

New York Times Bestselling Author of
THE REASON FOR GOD and *THE PRODIGAL GOD*

TIMOTHY
KELLER

PRAYER

*Experiencing
Awe and Intimacy with God*

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Experiencing
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*Well, if we don't pray together to God, we're not going to make it because of all we are facing. I'm certainly not. **We have to pray; we can't let it just slip our minds.***

Prayer is vital to living out a Transformative Faith

Audience and Situation in James

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings. ²Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

James 1:1-2

Major Theme: Genuine Faith Works

¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

James 2:17–18

James: Living Faith Goes to Work

Genuine Faith Generates Steadiness

Summary Statement 1:2-8

Real faith will be tested but trust God's wisdom to use various trials to mature you.

Development: A living faith...

- values the riches of character development over passing material riches. 1:9-11
- perseveres by looking to the eternal reward. 1:12
- takes ownership of personal desires that tempt to sin. 1:13-15
- recognizes God's for His good and faithful care. 1:16-18

James: Living Faith Goes to Work

Genuine Faith Generates Love

Summary 1:19-27

Real faith is a doer of God's Word evidenced in the way we act and speak towards people.

Development: A living faith...

- loves without partiality. 2:1-13
- shows itself alive through works. 2:14- 26
- impacts our speech. 3:1-12
- applies the moral wisdom of God. 3:13-18

James: Living Faith Goes to Work

Genuine Faith Generates Humility & Patience

Summary 4:1-10

Real faith is seen in the world as we walk humbly with the Lord.

Development: A living faith...

- puts off criticalness. 4:11-12
- boasts in God. 4:13-17
- uses treasures righteously. 5:1-6
- puts on patience in suffering. 5:7-12
- prays for the sick. 5:13-18
- pursues the wandering believer. 5:19-20

¹³Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

¹⁷Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

¹⁹My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

James 5:13–20

The call to persistent personal prayer in all situations.

¹³Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

The call to invite the elders to pray over the sick.

¹⁴Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

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That is why many of you are weak and ill,
and some have died.

1 Corinthians 12:30

The call to invite the elders to pray over the sick.

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The call to confess to and pray for one another.

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Example of the power of prayer.

¹⁷Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

The call to prayerfully pursue the wanderer.

¹⁹My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Prayer is vital to
transforming hearts.

Pray is vital to living out a
Transformative Faith.