



PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE – March 31

PRIMARY PASSAGE

James 5:13-20: ¹³ Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

¹⁷ Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. ¹⁸ Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

¹⁹ My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, ²⁰ remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

1.) Read the whole passage. In v. 13, When does James tell us to pray? Why do you think that it is important to pray in each of these moments?

2.) Read Psalms 150:2, Psalms 95:2-3, Psalms 107:8-9. Psalms 28:7. Think of a “song of praise” as just celebrating why and how God is so good! Let’s take a few moments and share some of the ways that we are thankful for who God is and what he has done in our life.

3.) Let’s take a moment and discuss when we feel troubled. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 and Galatians 6:2. What do these verses tell us about how we should respond in times of trouble?

4.) Let’s take a few moments and put this into action. Who would want to share how they are currently feeling troubled or burdened in life? Our group would love to help you carry that burden.

5.) Read vv.14-20. When are some of the times that should we pray for one another? What else should we do along with praying?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

James gives us four principles for prayer: Pray in times of trouble, pray in times of happiness, pray for those who are sick, and pray for those who are in sin.

- How can you prioritize prayer in your life starting this week?

- What sins in your life do you need to confess to God and ask for someone to carry that burden?