



Stuff Christians Do

spiritual practices that help you grow

Prayer

James 5:13-18

Prayer Basics



- 1) Prayer is *Talking to God about what we are doing together.*

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- 2) Prayer is *Relational* (not Karmic) communication with God.





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- 2) Prayer is *Relational* (not Karmic) communication with God.

“The multitude of your sacrifices— what are they to me?” says the LORD. “I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts?”

“Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen.”

Isaiah 1:11-12, 14-15

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.”

Come near to God and he will come near to you.

James 4:8

Prayer Specifics from James



- 1) Its always a good time to pray.

Prayer Specifics from James



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- 2) Praying with others is important.

Prayer Specifics from James



- 1) Its always a good time to pray.
- 2) Praying with others is important.
- 3) When you're sick, ask people (especially the leaders of your church) to pray for you.

Healing, Oil, and the Prayer of Faith

- **Why call the elders?**



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- **How sick do I have to be?**



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- How sick do I have to be?
- What's with the oil?



Healing, Oil, and the Prayer of Faith

- Why call the elders?
- Are elders the only ones qualified to pray for sick people?
- How sick do I have to be?
- What's with the oil?
- How much faith does a person need to be healed?



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Hebrews 11:6

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How do I pray “with faith”?

- 1) Come to God with your need.
- 2) Pray believing that:
 - 1) He is real
 - 2) He is good
 - 3) He is able

The Bottom Line

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. 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. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

James 5:16-18



The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Elijah was a regular person, like us, and he just prayed, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years...



The Bottom Line
Pray!



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