

## “Powerful and Effective Prayer”

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Is anyone among you ill? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. <sup>19</sup> My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, <sup>20</sup> remember this: whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

James 5:13-20

**Series Theme Verse:** *"As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead."* James 2:26

### **Declaration:**

I can make a difference by persistent prayer and compassionate engagement.

### ***Powerful and Effective Prayer...***

#### **1. Is Marked by Consistency.**

*There should be a **consistency** that runs through us all. For Jesus doesn't change—yesterday, today, tomorrow, he's always totally himself.* Hebrews 13:8 MSG

*Is anyone among you **in trouble**? Let them pray. Is anyone **happy**? Let them sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Is anyone among you **ill**? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.* vs. 13-14

#### **2. Builds our Confidence.**

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*<sup>35</sup> So do not throw away your **confidence**; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.* Hebrews 10:35-36

##### *a. Confidence in the character of God.*

*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.*

v. 15

##### *b. Confidence in the importance of community.*

*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.*

v. 16

#### **3. Changes our Perspective.**

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

*My dear friends, if you know people who have wandered off from God's truth, don't write them off. **Go after them. Get them back** and you will have rescued precious lives from destruction and prevented an epidemic of wandering away from God.* vs. 19-20 MSG

*“We please God most, not by frantically trying to make ourselves good, but by throwing ourselves into His arms.”*

**-A.W. Tozer**

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