

Six verses in a row in James chapter 5 give the longest, most packed teachings on prayer in the epistle. James' six verses give six situations in which to pray—in suffering, satisfaction, sickness, sin, seeking no rain, and seeking rain. James puts a heavy emphasis on prayer near the end of the letter. But he opens with a strong accent on prayer (1:5–8) and supports it near the middle by focusing on our improper use of our tongue (3:1-12) and our motives (4:2–4).

Asking for wisdom during _____ (1:5-8)

Taming the tongue that _____ God & _____ man (3:1-12)

Due to wrong motives _____ (4:2-4)

SUFFERING 13a

SATISFACITON 13b

SICKNESS 14-15

SIN 15c-16

RAIN 17-18

Personal Application and Interaction

Principles of prayer found in James 5

1. Whatever the situation, pray! James' examples can remind one of Paul's words, "pray about everything" (Phil. 4:6).
2. Even when an illness brings the life very low, have faith in God and count on His people to pray to Him.
3. Whenever sin is part of the immediate difficulty, confess and believe that God forgives.
4. If others have been wronged by the sin, confess to them as well.
5. Think not of your human limitations, but of what the great God is able to do.
6. Looking at how God has answered prayers of others like Elijah can fan the flame of faith.
7. God not only can bless a life by prayer, but use that life to pray and bring blessing, even salvation, to someone else.

Of these seven principles which ones are the hardest for you to follow?



James 5:13-18

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