

James: A Letter from Jesus' Brother **Prayer for Healing — James 5:14-18**

When you are sick, have others pray for you, either the elders, or anyone in the Body of Christ (vv.14,16)

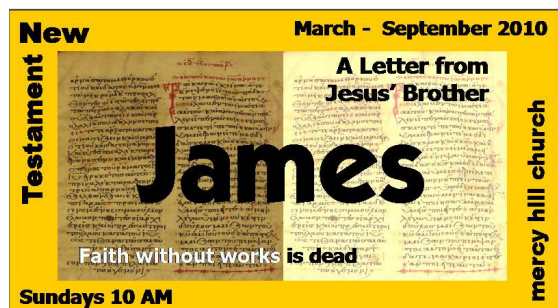
Anointing with oil is encouraged, probably as a sign of God's favor upon the person (but it's not an essential New Testament practice). (v.14).

Sometimes when we pray God will give us a supernatural certainty that He is going to heal the person — that's the spiritual gift of faith (1 Cor 12:9) which enables you to pray the "prayer of faith" (v.15).

We don't wait for this gift of faith before we pray; we go ahead and pray, trusting that Jesus will give whatever spiritual gifts he want us to have to help this person (vv.14-16).

When we are sick, it's important to confess any unconfessed sin, because your sickness might be caused by sin (but not all sickness is caused by sin — John 9:1-3) (vv.15-16).

If we are righteous through trusting Jesus, we can ask for miracles and we will see God work miracles (vv.16-18).



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

How comfortable are you in praying for those who are sick? What makes you uncomfortable? What makes you hesitate? What would James say about your hesitations and discomfort?

How comfortable are you in confessing your sin to someone else? Why don't we do this more often? Why would James encourage it?

Have you ever experienced "the prayer of faith"? Share what happened.

How can you and your home group be more faithful in doing what James says? What could result from this?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

New Testament **March - September 2010**

A Letter from Jesus' Brother James

Faith without works is dead

Sundays 10 AM

mercy hill church