

Home Group Discussion Guide

Pray For One Another – James 5:13-18

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The following questions are designed to help groups explore the message above by challenging participants to consider how God is wanting them to apply it to their lives.

*The questions are a **guide** to help lead discussion.*

Please don't feel that all questions need to be asked, instead respond to the needs of your group. If you have new people in your group, take the opportunity to introduce each other and clarify any expectations that are present in your group (such as confidentiality).

GETTING STARTED

1. How easy or difficult do you find it to ask another person to pray for you? Why?
2. What was the main challenge or idea that stood out to you from the message on Sunday?

REFLECTING ON THE MESSAGE

Consider James 5:13-18

1. What do you notice about the different situations in which James encourages people to pray?
 - a. What does this suggest about the place prayer should have in the life of the church?
2. If prayer is a conversation with God, involving both talking and listening, how does seeing prayer as relationship change the way we approach it?

Consider 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 24-26

3. Paul describes the church as one body, where members share one another's suffering and joy. How does praying for and with one another help us live as that body?
4. During the service, people were invited to pray with someone outside their normal social circle. Why can taking that step feel uncomfortable?
 - a. What can happen in a community when people are willing to move beyond that hesitation?
5. James says that prayer is "powerful and effective", yet we Mike spoke openly about decades of faithful prayer without the physical healing he hoped for. How can we hold these two realities together without assuming unanswered prayer means a lack of faith?

RESPONDING TO THE MESSAGE

1. Mike said, "There is no such thing as an independent Christian." Where are you most tempted to live independently rather than allowing others into your life?
2. Is there something happening in your life that you need to invite others to pray with you about?
3. Who is someone outside your normal circle that you could intentionally ask, "How can I pray for you?" this week?

OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER

Our Home Groups are the primary place for pastoral care to occur within the Church. We would encourage you to take the opportunity to pray for each other in this space.

