

James 5:13-18

Prayer series from James #2

Prayer: Being Prayed For

The role of prayer in our lives includes the prayers of others for us - we need others, so we should:

1. call on them

- do you have people to call on, and will you call?

2. receive their ministry

- the focus here is prayer, but consider the instructions to anoint with oil in the name of the Lord

3. be encouraged

- the prayers of the faithful should encourage trust that God will hear and answer (without presuming to know how)
- Psalm 16:10 (quoted in Acts 2:27 & 13:35)

Questions for reflection

1. How often do you pray for others? If you do, are you usually with them or do you pray for them on your own privately?
2. When you have needs, do you make your requests known to others so they may pray for you? What needs have you had where you did not ask for prayer? Why?
3. If you are in a home group (at Emmanuel or elsewhere), do you share requests for prayer for deep needs (either with the whole group, or with a part of the group)? If you are not in a home group, whom do you speak with about the things going on in your life that would benefit from the prayers of others? How often are you with others who pray for you?
4. "The prayer of faith will save the one who is sick" (v15) This is not a promise that every illness will be healed, but how can it encourage you to pray with real trust and expectation? If it will be truly answered in the resurrection, how can that encourage you while you are praying for help and not seeing change?