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# #14 “The Prayer of Faith”

*James 5:13-18*

TODD DUGARD | JUNE 15, 2014

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THE  
**NO-NONSENSE  
GUIDE**  
TO AN  
**EXTRAORDINARY  
CHRISTIAN LIFE**  
- THE BOOK OF  
JAMES

## Warming Up

1. What is one of the best prayer times--either by yourself or in a group--that you have ever experienced? What made it so great?
2. Oswald Chambers said, “Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work.” Discuss this statement. What are the implications for us?

## Digging In

3. *Pray constantly (5:13-14a)*. In what situations do you find it easiest to pray? Which ones are the hardest? Why? What does this indicate?
4. *Pray dependently (5:14b)*. How should our prayers demonstrate our dependence on God (John 15:5) and one another (Galatians 6:2)? Why is dependency such a difficult thing for many of us? But why is it so critical?
5. *Pray believingly (5:15)*. How did Pastor Todd define the word “faith” (see also Hebrews 11:1)? What does it mean, and what doesn’t it mean, to pray in faith? How can sin stand in the way of answered prayer? Why is forgiveness the preferred outcome of any prayer?
6. *Pray humbly (5:16a)*. How is mutual confession an expression of humility? In what ways is this foreign to us? Discuss our Harvest commitment to “uncommon community” as evidenced by authenticity, transparency, and vulnerability (ATV).
7. *Pray expectantly (5:16b)*. We should pray bold prayers and then expect great things to happen. How should we rightly expect God to answer? How should we not necessarily expect him to answer? Is there a line between expectancy and presumption?
8. *Pray effectively (5:16c)*. According to this verse, what is the key to effectiveness in our prayer life? What does this look like? Why do you suppose this is such a big deal to God? (If this characteristic is missing, consider a Luke 18:13 kind of prayer.)
9. *Pray passionately and persistently (5:17-18)*. What do these descriptions mean? Turn to 1 Kings 17-18 to get a fuller picture of Elijah’s multiple, mighty prayers. What stands out to you from this passage?

## Breaking Out

10. How do your prayers match up to James’ description here? Where do you need to grow? How can your small group members stand with you in prayer this week? What burden can you share?



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