

September 7th–13th
Lesson 13: James 5:13–20

PRAYER AND CARE

1. Read James 5:13–20. What is your first reaction to trials and suffering? To times of happiness? How does James urge us to meet the lows and highs of our life?
2. What is the relationship between prayer and patience?
3. Why is it important to pray for each other's healing? (Optional: See also Matthew 18:19–20; John 13:35; 1 Corinthians 12:12–26)
4. We are called to "confess your sins to each other and pray for each other" (verse 16). What impact does this kind of sharing have in the church community? What are the things that hinder you from doing this?
5. C.S. Lewis says, "I don't pray to change God's mind, but for Him to change me." Give a personal example of how you have seen prayer bring a change in you, or someone you have prayed for, or in circumstances.
6. Think about the other believers you are close to. Do you know them well enough and love them well enough to speak into their lives and have them speak into yours? (verses 19–20)
7. Is there anyone you know who needs an encouraging word from you this week? Take a moment now to pray for them and ask for wisdom to know how best to communicate with them.
8. Read through the book of James in one sitting and write down some of the main themes we have studied this summer. Why do you think James 5:19–20 is a good way to close this letter?