**Faith at Work: A Study in James Series May 15, 2022**

**Prayer and Praise**

Theme: Christians are to pray and praise God in every situation of life, calling the elders and the wider church to pray alongside of them

Christians must pray **in times of hardship** James 5:13a

* Suffering is any trouble that comes to the life of the believer
  + It could be physical
  + It could be emotional
  + It could be spiritual
  + It could be relational

Christians must praise **in times of joy** James 5:13b

* When all of life is going great, we must remember to worship God for our circumstances
  + - It could be physical
    - It could be emotional
    - It could be spiritual
* It could be relational

Christians must pray **when sick with the elders** James 5:14-15

* Elders are the **Church Leaders**
* Duties are numerous:
  + Teaching the church (1 Timothy 3:2)
  + Caring for the spiritual needs of each member   
    (1 Peter 5:1-3)
  + Equipping the church members to serve   
    (Ephesians 4:11-13)
  + Guarding the doctrine of the church (Acts 15:1-29, 20:28)
  + Setting an example for the church (1 Peter 5:3)
  + Watching over church discipline (Matthew 18:15-18)
* Anointing is the application of **olive oil**
  + The means of use varies by custom (i.e. there is no specific method used in the New Testament)
  + Mark 6:13   
    And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them.
* Prayer, anointing and calling on the name of the Lord is the requirement
  + Healing **can occur**
  + Sins will be forgiven as confessed

SOME (but not all) illnesses are **caused by sin** James 5:16

* See John 9:1-5, Matthew 17:14-20

Praying for others is **for everyone** James 5:17-18

* You don’t have to be a super-Christian to be able to intercede before God for others
  + The Lord desires humble commitment of a Christ follower to pray for fellow believers

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