

Prayer of Faith

(James 5:13-16 NIV) Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Prayer is the difference between the best I can do and the best God can do.

Prayer puts my unknown future in the hands of an all-knowing God.

(James 5:13 NIV) Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray.

(Matthew 6:31-34 NIV) So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

(Matthew 6:10 NIV) "...your kingdom come, your will be done..."

Prayer puts my hopeless situation in the hands of an all-powerful God.

(James 5:14-15 NIV) Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up.

(Romans 4:18-21 NLT) Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!" And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah's womb. Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises.

Prayer puts my broken life in the hands of an all-forgiving God.

(James 5:15-16 NIV) If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

(2 Corinthians 5:21 MSG) In Christ. God put the wrong on him who never did anything wrong, so we could be put right with God.

(Romans 10:13 NLT) For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."

Building our Faith

(James 5:17-18 NIV) Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

(1 Kings 17:1 NIV) Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."

1. Faith begins with a Word.

(Romans 10:17 NKJV) So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

(Joshua 24:15 NLT) "But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD."

(Psalm 91:2-3 NLT) This I declare about the LORD: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him. For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease.

(Philippians 4:19 NIV) And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

(Psalm 121:1-3 TPT) I look up to the mountains and hills, longing for God's help. But then I realize that our true help and protection come only from the Lord, our Creator who made the heavens and the earth. He will guard and guide me, never letting me stumble or fall.

(1 Kings 18:41-42 NIV) And Elijah said to Ahab, "Go, eat and drink, for there is the sound of a heavy rain." So Ahab went off to eat and drink, but Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees.

BOOK OF JAMES

2. Faith builds when we determine to not give up.

(1 Kings 18:43-44 NIV) “Go and look toward the sea,” he told his servant. And he went up and looked. “There is nothing there,” he said. Seven times Elijah said, “Go back.” The seventh time the servant reported, “A cloud as small as a man’s hand is rising from the sea.” So Elijah said, “Go and tell Ahab, ‘Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.’”

(Hebrews 10:36-39 NIV) You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. For, “In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay.” And, “But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.” But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.

(1 Kings 18:45-46 NIV) Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain came on and Ahab rode off to Jezreel. The power of the LORD came upon Elijah and, tucking his cloak into his belt, he ran ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel.

3. Faith breaks through the natural into the supernatural.

(Matthew 19:26) Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

The Greatest Miracle of All

(James 5:19-20 NIV) My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

Eternal life.

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