



Week 14 | Praying With Faith

Gospel Community Leaders Guide

Pray

Ask God to meet you and your group in this gathering as you talk about prayer and faith. Pray that His peace and assurance would cover all your uncertainties, fears, and guilt concerning prayer.

Plan

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. -James 5:13-18

- **What about praying in faith makes you hesitant or afraid?**
- **How have you seen the concept of “praying with faith” abused in the church? What does “praying with faith” not mean?**
- **What results of prayer do you see in James 5? In what ways have you seen these fleshed out in the church?**

- **What would you ask God for if you truly believed He was listening and would answer? For yourself, others, our church, our city?**

Consider

The issue isn't whether we are full of faith but whether we have any faith. If we have the smallest amount of faith, God works on our behalf...when facing a given situation, we call out to God to give us faith—no matter how small. A small amount of faith is sufficient because the focus is not on our faith but its object. -Thomas Schreiner

Pray

As you close, consider the dreams and requests you have heard voiced in your meeting. Acknowledge that we don't always believe that God cares, hears, or responds, but that we want to, and can't do it on our own. Pray the prayer of the father in Mark 9:24: "I believe; help my unbelief!"

