



# The BOOK of JAMES

WHAT VIBRANT *faith* LOOKS LIKE

## Key Scriptures

### **James 5:13-20**

*13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 14 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. 15 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. 16 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.*

*17 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. 18 Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.*

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

## Prayer Life

As James wraps up his epistle, he emphasizes the importance of prayer and faith. Throughout the Book of James series, we have received practical teaching and instruction to help us grow and live purpose-filled lives for God's glory, but we cannot walk it out in our own strength. We need the power and presence of God, so we must pray! And we need faith in order to breakthrough the natural into the supernatural. If we press into prayer and build our faith, we will see God do great things in our lives and the world around us.

### Think about it.

- Through prayer, we can put our unknown future in the hands of an all-knowing God.
- Through prayer, we can put our hopeless situation in the hands of an all-powerful God.
- Through prayer, we can put our broken lives in the hands of an all-forgiving God.
- To stir our faith, we need to get in the Word.
- To build our faith, we need to determine not to give up.
- To care for one another spiritually in the sincerest way.

### Share your insight.

1. When you face a difficult situation, at what point do you usually stop and pray (right at the beginning, when it starts to get really hard, or when you reach a place of desperation)? How can praying first change the way you walk through trials?
2. What unknown future are you facing right now that might be causing anxiety or fear in your life? How does it make you feel to know God already knows exactly how it will turn out?
3. What is something you've been praying for, for a long time? Are you ever tempted to give up? Pray for these things as a group and stir up your faith together so that you can continue to persevere.
4. Why is caring for one another spiritually such an important aspect in the vibrancy of our faith?

### Pray for one another.

- *Father, thank You for hearing us when we pray. We praise You for being all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-forgiving; You are an amazing God! Help us surrender our fears to You today. We believe You can do anything, and we trust You with all of the unknowns in our lives. Strengthen our faith as we wait on You.*