Lesson 29 James 5:13-26

Let Us Pray

1. What are some specific circumstances in our lives that require prayer from verses 13-14?

13 Is anyone among you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone in good spirits? He should sing praise.

14 Is anyone among you sick?\* He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint [him] with oil in the name of the Lord

2. What is "the prayer of faith" (vs. 15)?

15 and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven

3. What part should modern medicine have in healing our illnesses? Why?

4. *Challenge Question*: What is the difference between the "much praying" mentioned in Matthew 6:7 and being persistent in prayer in James 5:17-18? Also see Luke 18:9-14

Matthew 6:7

In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words.

James 5:17-18

17 Elijah was a human being like us; yet he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain upon the land.

18 Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the earth produced its fruit.

Luke 18:9-14

**The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.**

  9 He then addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else.

10 “Two people went up to the temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector.

11 The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, ‘O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity—greedy, dishonest, adulterous—or even like this tax collector.

12 I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.’

13 But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner.’

14 I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

5. How is the example of Elijah meant as an encouragement to those addressed in verses 13-15?

6. How willingly do you ask others to pray for you when you are ill?

7. A. When have you come the closest to wandering from the faith?

 B. What, or who, helped bring you back?

8. How would you help someone else come back to the faith?

9. What have you learned from this book of James that you can take with you as you continue to grow in

 Christ? Thank God for these things!