



# Prayer Changes Things

**April 17, 2011**

## **James 5:13-18**

<sup>13</sup> Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

## **James 4:2**

<sup>2</sup> You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.

## **Discussion Questions**

Have you ever asked for something, expecting to be turned down? Did it affect how you asked?

What kind of prayer takes us a majority of our prayer time? What do you think God thinks about that?

Why does God want us coming to Him with our requests? What can it say about us that we bring all these things to God?

What is James trying to tell us about prayer here? Why does he mention Elijah? What is different about praying today than back at either Elijah's time or James' time?

What do you/don't you expect to happen when you pray? Why?

What is the Good News of Prayer?