

Title: The Circle Of Life - James 5 13-20

Read:

¹³⁻¹⁵Are you hurting? Pray. Do you feel great? Sing. Are you sick? Call the church leaders together to pray and anoint you with oil in the name of the Master. Believing-prayer will heal you, and Jesus will put you on your feet. And if you've sinned, you'll be forgiven—healed inside and out. ¹⁶⁻¹⁸Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with. Elijah, for instance, human just like us, prayed hard that it wouldn't rain, and it didn't—not a drop for three and a half years. Then he prayed that it would rain, and it did. The showers came and everything started growing again. ¹⁹⁻²⁰My dear friends, if you know people who have wandered off from God's truth, don't write them off. Go after them. Get them back and you will have rescued precious lives from destruction and prevented an epidemic of wandering away from God.

Think:

Lost your dog? Pray. Is a friend dying? Pray. Got a maths test? Pray. Simply feeling rubbish? Pray. After everything else James says his final piece of wisdom is, “actually whatever you do pray.” James has spent his entire book, saying do this, do that, and don't do that, now at the end we are told to pray, pray, pray. He tells us that our prayers will be heard, but they will be all the more effective if we pray and live the life Gods wants us to. If we go about school or college being the best disciple we can be then our prayers will be all the more effective. But actually if we spend our day praying to God, then as we go then we will not be able to do anything other than be a great witness for God. If we talk to God all day long asking him for help here and wisdom there, then we will become so close to our Father God that we will never want to do anything he wouldn't want us to do. So pray and you will be a great disciple, and be a great disciple and you will pray. It's the real circle of life.

Pray:

Father God please help me turn to you in both the big and little things in my day. Amen.

Action:

I challenge you to talk to God all day long today. Whatever you do big or small, ask God for his help and thank him for the good stuff that happens. Bye.