



## Extraordinary Prayer – Message 6

### Announcements

**Step Three – Small Group Life** // Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:45pm// LCC Annex, SSC Offices and GCC. Discover how you can grow in your relationship with God and others through small groups. [ChurchoftheKing.com/register](http://ChurchoftheKing.com/register).

### Warm-up

When you were a child, did your family pray before each meal?

This week we explore the sixth and final message of the *Extraordinary Life* series from the book of James. Our author James calls early Jewish believers (and us) to live a life of *Extraordinary Prayer*. When we submit to the power of prayer we can expect to experience signs and wonders from God.

### Word and Application

**Read James 5:13-18.**

What impact can we have in our homes if we pray according to this scripture? Share a specific time when praise or prayer accomplished much.

Do you experience an effective prayer life or do you find it challenging to have a consistent time of prayer? On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being the lowest, 10 being the highest), rank yourself on the following areas of prayer:

- Pray often \_\_\_\_
- Pray first before trying to figure things out \_\_\_\_
- Pray with expectancy \_\_\_\_
- Pray for the impossible \_\_\_\_

Below are four ways to help you experience a powerful and effective prayer life.

## Four Ways to Experience Extraordinary Prayer:

### 1. **Pray *through* your suffering.**

Becoming a Christian is not a free ticket to a perfect life where everything goes great 100% of the time. We have a tendency to get angry or indulge in self-pity when we find ourselves in trials. The good news is we don't have to experience disappointments alone. God is with us.

**Read James 5:13, John 16:33 & John 14:16-18.** Which of these three passages most resonate with you and why? How does knowing you have the ever-present Comforter change or support your perspective towards trials you face?

### 2. **Pray *against* sickness.**

God introduces Himself to us as the God who heals your sicknesses, diseases, and wounds. Throughout the Bible we see healing miracles repeatedly; this still happens today.

**Read Exodus 15:26, Acts 10:38, Hebrews 13:8.** Why do you think God heals? Share with the group a personal testimony or one of someone you know that experienced a miraculous healing.

### 3. **Pray *after confessing* your sin.**

James encourages us to live transparent and free from the condemnation of sin. Confession brings healing, builds accountability and releases you into true, pure, godly freedom.

**Read James 5:16.** What is the benefit of confessing sin in this verse? Why is difficult for us to confess our sins to one another? Do you have a trusted friend or accountability partner you can confide in when the Holy Spirit prompts you to unload and turn from some toxic junk?

### 4. **Pray *expecting* signs and wonders.**

**Read James 5:16-18, Acts 16:25, James 4:2, Matthew 7:7.** What is the common theme in these passages?

God delights in answering the passionate and believing prayers of His children. It is important to remember God is working behind the scenes. Our response is to keep asking, keep seeking, and keep knocking. When we *press in expectantly*, we can experience signs and wonders through prayer. What are you praying for in faith with an expectant heart?

Which of these four ways areas have been lacking in your prayer life? This week, step out in faith in one of these areas.

**Prayer**

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal or remind us of the desires He has given us but for which we have not ask. With right motive and in faith, ask God for these things. Pray for specific needs of the group.