



FAITH IN ACTION

WEEK 9 | DAVE D'ANGELO

James 5:13-20

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. 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. 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. 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. 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. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

James doesn't end his letter like the other epistles.

- He calls us to pray 7 times.
- He calls us to rescue those who don't know Jesus.

Opening: James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ (James 1:1)

Closing: Pray, and bring back sinners

FIVE THINGS JAMES WANTS US TO SEE:

1. It's *and not or*

a. Building up believers and reaching non-believers

- When we disconnect from our lifeline, we spend the first day on our deathbed

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

2. Prayer works

- a. Our first response, not our last resort

Proverbs 13:20

Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

3. We are family

- a. Jesus died so that we can see one another as co-heirs.

→ When we see others as family, we care about them. When we care about them, we do something for them.

- **1 Timothy 3:15** – The household of God is the church
- **John 1:12-13** – All who believe in Jesus have the right to become children of God
- **2 Corinthians 6:18** – God will be a father to you; you will be sons and daughters to me
- **Romans 8:16-17** – The Spirit reveals that we are fellow heirs with Jesus
- **Ephesians 2:19** – No longer strangers, but members of the household of God
- **Galatians 4:5** – We are adopted as sons of God through Jesus

4. You and I are “missionaries” too

- a. Heaven is the real prize and we’re called to help people get there

→ People need Jesus, no matter where they live

James 5:19-20

My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Indifference to their sin eventually becomes indifference to my sin.

Question: Am I running toward the smoke?

5. We aren't called to fit in. We are graced to stand out.

- a. A sign of walking away from the Word is the desire to fit in with the world.

John 17:14-16

I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

