



Becoming a People Who... Live Their Faith

"Pray Until We Pray"

Message Notes: May 26, 2019

Pastor Derrick Shields

Hebrew 4:16: "Because of Jesus, our spotless, sinless Savior, and ALL He did, death on a cross for our behalf...we can approach His throne of grace with confidence and find mercy in our time of need."

James 5:13-20

- Prayer definition-communication with God.
 - It's MORE than communication with God.
 - Travailing prayers, our heart-felt, desperate cry out to our Father, a deep desire to commune with our Maker. Listening, praising, worship, conversation with our Father, but way more than just conversation!
 - Vs 14: "if you are sick" ... sick (weakness, weary-meaning of sickness) occurs when troubles "set in." Not just physical sickness, but emotional, spiritual, mental, financial and so on.

Reminder that our Pastoral Care Team desires to pray over any and all requests sent in.

Prayer is crucial.

- Anointing with oil, prayer, in the Name of the Lord...what we are called to do!
- Oil is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. Anointing heads with oil is beautiful and Biblically symbolic, as kings and officials were anointed as a sign of power and divine blessing.
- Oil was also used to refresh and cleanse (story of the good Samaritan, anointing Kings) ... it is not about the oil but who the oil points us to-- JESUS!

Prayers offered in faith:

James, Jesus's brother had memories of Jesus, he saw Jesus's life and watched what He did, there was an intimate connection.

- Mark 2 (friends lowering their friend through the roof) an example of faith of the righteous man are heard!
- Jesus, himself only did what His Father called Him to do, an intimate connection. A continual, intimate, constant connection, communion.
 - We, in our flesh, are tempted to rely on our own strength, desire to trust in ourselves, we can fall away. But, we can truly desire a constant connection, an intimate communion, confessing our sins and staying connected to our Father.

Vs16-confess our sins to one another, bring them to the light, share them w/ a trusted brother who will listen and pray. Sin loses its power in the light. Be real, healing, wholeness, freedom occur when we bring sins to the Light!

Psalm 32 was written by David after he had committed great sin (2 Sam.11-12-story of David and Bathsheba, and how David was visited by Nathan).

Neurologist-studies done on keeping negative behavioral secrets... struggles, stress, brain increases hormones in the blood that are damaging, cause impairment and have negative effects on health.

- Basically, what science is saying backs biblical truth.
- Scientist, James P, studies on confession and improvements in relationships, health, and wholeness: Don't live a lie, keeping secrets (depression, addiction, affairs, cutting, etc...)

Vs 17-18: The prayers of a righteous man are heard. These were examples of travailing prayer.

1 Kings 17:1: Elijah was tuned into God and His will because of his time in prayer.

- Elijah was an ordinary man that God used because of his willingness to be surrendered and in tune with God.
 - God answered Elijah's prayer for rain.
- When we are fully surrendered to the Lord, we can cultivate intimate relationship with God, believing and trusting Him completely.