



DO.

THE STUDY OF JAMES

GROUP/FAMILY

SESSION 5

- Watch the sermon “Talk like Jesus” on The Redemption Church YouTube Channel.
- Feed your soul daily with the subsequent Psalms through Devotions 1471-1476 (on [YouTube/podcast](#)) and share them with the one you are discipling.
- Apply your life to the Bible alongside your group or family with the honest questions in this lesson.

This Week's Sermon expositors James 5

Devotions 1471-1476 will delve further into the 1 Kings 17,18 connection with James 5

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CONTEXT

James wrote to scattered Jewish believers who were navigating persecution, poverty, and social instability in the Roman Empire. These Christians faced discouraging pressures—economic oppression from wealthy landowners, slander from hostile neighbors, and the internal strain of trying to maintain faithful discipleship in a culture indifferent or hostile to the gospel. Prayer held a central place in Jewish piety, and early Christians continued this emphasis, understanding prayer as life with God rather than a religious task. Elders were established spiritual shepherds within each congregation, responsible for pastoral care, teaching, and guarding the flock. The anointing with oil mentioned in this passage was not a magical rite but a tangible, culturally familiar act symbolizing consecration, compassion, and invoking God's care. Confession of sin, likewise, had roots in synagogue practice where open acknowledgment of wrongdoing fostered restored fellowship. James's community believed God intervened in daily life, healed the sick, forgave sin, and responded to the prayers of the righteous. In these final verses, James knit together the themes of prayer, perseverance, mutual care, and restoration, urging the community to remain faithful until the appearing of Christ.

THE BIG IDEA OF THE TEXT

James urged believers to pray in every circumstance, seek elders' care, confess sins, restore wanderers, and trust God's saving power.

CONNECTING THE SESSION TO THE SERMON

James 5 as a whole addressed suffering, endurance, justice, and the steadfast character of God. Verses 1-6 warned oppressive rich offenders; verses 7-12 urged patience and faithfulness. Verses 13-20 continue these themes by showing how endurance expresses itself: believers pray rather than despair, seek spiritual help rather than isolate, confess sin rather than hide, and pursue the straying rather than abandon them. James's focus remains on the community's steadfastness as they await the Lord's return. Suffering, perseverance, righteousness, and mutual responsibility all converge to show a faith that works in real life.

BIBLICAL TEXT (CSB) - JAMES 5:13-20

Is anyone among you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone cheerful? He should sing praises. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? He should call for the elders of the church, and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ The prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up; if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful in its effect. ¹⁷ Elijah was a human being as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the land. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the land produced its fruit.

¹⁹ My brothers and sisters, if any among you strays from the truth, and someone turns him back, ²⁰ let that person know that whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

APPLYING OUR LIVES TO THE TEXT

- From verse 13, how does James's call to pray in suffering and sing in joy challenge your current instinctive responses when life feels heavy or light?
- In verse 14, what does the instruction to call the elders reveal about humility, dependence, and how believers are meant to experience spiritual care within the church body?
- Based on verse 15, how does the promised saving and raising action of the Lord reshape how you understand God's involvement in both physical and spiritual healing?
- Verse 16 links confession and healing; how does honest acknowledgment of sin before trusted believers shape holiness, accountability, and the spiritual health of a congregation?
- Looking at verses 17-18, how does Elijah's example encourage you to believe God works through ordinary, righteous believers' prayers rather than only through extraordinary figures?
- In verses 19-20, how should the call to restore those who wander shape your personal responsibility for spiritually drifting brothers and sisters within your congregation today?

THE TAKEAWAY: SO WHAT CHURCH?

We will cultivate a life of prayer in all circumstances, pursue humble confession, and rely on godly shepherds for spiritual care. We will restore wandering brothers and sisters instead of watching them drift. We will remember that the forgiveness and healing James describes ultimately flow from Jesus, the promised Servant who bore our sins, intercedes for us, and brings final restoration. His cross and resurrection guarantee the cleansing, raising, and rescuing James taught.

FOR PARENTS:

SHOW YOUR KIDS JESUS IN THIS PASSAGE

Sometimes people hurt, get sick, or make choices that lead them away from God. In this passage, God showed His people that He listens carefully when they pray and that He uses His helpers in the church to care for them. Long before Jesus was born, God was teaching His people to look for Someone who could heal hearts, forgive sins, and bring people back when they wandered away. Every time the passage talks about praying, forgiving, and saving, it points to Jesus—the One who came to bring us back to God forever. When we see these things, we learn to trust Him more.

FOLLOW ALONG

To cover the subsequent scripture in Daily Devotions 1471-1476, subscribe to Jesse Campbell Ministries on YouTube or on most podcast apps.

OTHER OFFERINGS

With an abundance of Bible Books to cover just like this study, there's plenty more to explore and learn from JCM, such as:

- The Seven Thunders: The Book of Revelation for Groups
- And Then You Will Know: The Book of Ezekiel for Groups
- Daniel: The Book of Daniel for Groups
- Dear Skeptical Friend: The Gospel of Luke for Groups
- Holy Dissident: Isaiah for Groups
- Letters to My Sons: The Pastoral Epistles
- Into The Fray: I Corinthians
- The God of All Comfort: II Corinthians
- Reason For Hope: 6 Apologetic Sessions for Groups
- The Sacred Acts: Ordinances of the Church
- The Revival Project: A Transformative Study of Nehemiah
- And many more!

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ABOUT JCM

Dr. Jesse Campbell is the founder and head Pastor of The Redemption Church, located on the outskirts of Seattle, WA. Jesse has a strong calling to preach the Bible as it is written. In the midst of a socially and religiously starving culture, his biblical foundation for understanding and preaching the gospel in a strong, clear, and concise manner has earned him a large following in a short amount of time. He's grown the JCM platform quickly, has been featured on national radio shows, and has been a guest speaker across the nation at many churches and large events.

Originally from the Pensacola, FL area, Jesse moved with his family to Nashville and worked at Lifeway Publishing for a while before completing his pastoral education. He was led to launch his own biblically-based church, The Redemption Church, in 2020.

Jesse is married to his wife, Jessi, and they have 4 children. Together they also run a conference for bereaved parents, in memory of their son, Aiden, called Aiden's Hope. When Jesse and Jessi aren't investing their time in JCM or The Redemption Church, you can find them on the bleachers cheering on many baseball games or hiking in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.