



## LESSON 16: JAMES 5:13-16 (STUDENT)

1. What changes did you make as a result of applying last week's lesson?
  
2. Read James 5:13-16. How does the paragraph begin and end? Summarize what these verses are saying? How does relate to the last three paragraphs?

5:1-6 The rich were to weep because the Lord of Hosts had heard the cry of those they were oppressing.	7-11 The afflicted brethren were to patiently await God's judgment on the wicked.	5:12 While the afflicted were waiting, they were to have integrity in oaths they currently were making and had made.	5:13-18
---	--	---	---------

3. James asks three questions in order to let us know the three categories of afflicted believers. What are they experiencing (vss. 13-14), and what are they to do about it? Fill in the chart below.

Who?	Meaning of Greek Word	Response
	<i>Kakopathei</i> : to experience what is bad, suffer misfortune	
	<i>Euthemeo</i> : cheerful, well in spirit	
	<i>Asthenia</i> literally: to be without strength. The verb commonly refers to bodily weakness but can mean any kind of weakness.	

4. The word "suffering" emphasizes the internal anguish caused by outward conditions. As an answer, James commands them to pray as a constant practice. Look at the following examples of people in distress. Who did they turn to and what did he/she pray?

Isaiah 36:1; 37:1-20

Psalm 50:15

Psalm 70

Psalm 91:15

John 17

5. How do these examples change the way you will pray when you are suffering?

6. In the midst of distress, some people are "well in their spirit." The Greek word is better translated "joyful." Read Galatians 5:22-23. What kind of cheerfulness or joyfulness is James talking about? Is it based on favorable circumstances? Is it a fleeting emotion?

7. What are joyful people commanded to do, and who was an example of this in Acts 16:22-30? What was the end result?

8. Songs play an instrumental part in the believer's life. They speak truth to us. During the Passover Feast, Jesus sang a hymn with His disciples before He went to the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:30). During the Passover, the people of Israel sang Psalms 113-118 as they traveled to Jerusalem. What truths were these songs meant to communicate?

- Psalm 113

- Psalm 114

- Psalm 115

- Psalm 116

- Psalm 117

- Psalm 118

9. **OPTIONAL:** Did you know that God Himself wrote a song? Why did God do this, according to Deuteronomy 31:19? Read the song in Deuteronomy 32 and list 5

truths about God the Israelites would keep in mind as they were singing this song.

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

10. How do you incorporate songs that speak truth into your daily life?

11. The last category of people (refer to question 3 above) are those who are physically weak or ill. They are instructed to call the elders to pray. Most likely this person couldn't go to the elders so he/she had to call for them to come to their home. The main action of the sentence is **praying** in the name of the Lord. But as they pray, they do something else. What is it (v. 15)?

**OPTIONAL:** It is important to understand culture when studying the Bible. There were a variety of ways olive oil was used in ancient times. Look up the verses under each title heading and fill in the use, according to the references given.

Exodus 25: 31-37; 1 Kings 7:48-50 \_\_\_\_\_

Leviticus 8:12; 1 Samuel 16:13; 1 Kings 1:39 \_\_\_\_\_

Exodus 29:38-40; Leviticus 7:11-12 \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 1:6; Luke 10:33-34; Mark 6:13 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 26:12-13; Luke 23:52-56 \_\_\_\_\_

12. It is not stated specifically how anointing the head with oil relates to the elders who are praying for the weak, but two observations are really important. First, it is NOT the oil that heals. Second, the emphasis is on the power of the LORD. How did the righteous man of verses 14 and 15 pray?

- 
- 

13. Read John 14:13-14; 15:16; 16:23-24. What can we expect as we practice the principle of prayer in His name? How is this clarified in 1 John 5:14?

14. The believers are reminded again to pray in faith, as we learned in chapter 1:6-8. What three things are promised for the one who offers prayers in faith?

- 
- 
- 

15. In light of the three things listed in verse 15, what should be the response of believers in verse 16?

16. According to verse 17-18, who is the example of a righteous man who prayed in faith? What two important observations do you make about him in these verses? (1 Kings 17:1; 18:41-46 is where the account is given originally in Scripture.)

- 
- 
- 

**APPLICATION:** What can you apply from today's lesson?

\_\_\_ I need to turn to God in prayer when struggles come into my day.

\_\_\_ I need to bring my children to God when struggles come into his/her day.

\_\_\_ I need to sing truth throughout the day when I am cheerful.

\_\_\_ I need to sing truth with my children throughout the day when I/they are cheerful.

\_\_\_ I need to call those who are spiritually stronger to come and pray for me when I am weak.

\_\_\_ I need to confess my sins/sins struggles to others that they might pray for me knowing that prayer is God's weapon of warfare.