

## Going Deeper - Weekly Sermon Discussion Guide

### Gospel of James Chapter 5 - The Power of...

October 11, 2020



This week, Bill explores three key things according to the Letter of James:

1. Power of Prayer and Praise
2. Power of Confession and Repentance
3. Using Elijah as the example for both

God's intent is for us to live together, in harmony and peace. We can see this in the creation story. Since the fall, however, trouble has been with us and impacted us in a multitude of ways. This was never God's intent for our lives, but he didn't leave us without a life preserver. We have the example of Jesus and the prophets to look to at how to deal with trouble in our lives.

When we're in trouble, we need to pray. Prayer is powerful and it works. We need to pray for peace more often. You are only able to rest, while in the midst of the storm, when we have Heaven's peace within us. The only way we can defeat the storms in our midst is with the peace of Heaven.

Don't allow fear to replace your faith. Fear and faith are more than emotions. They are a substance that shifts and impacts the atmosphere around us. We release what is most available to us in our lives. You have the choice to make faith more available to you than anything else.

The more time we spend in prayer, the quicker we are able to know how to respond to the problem we're facing.

When we're happy, we should praise God - just as the disciples did. Also, looking at the disciples, they chose when they were happy. They didn't let their external circumstances dictate when they were happy or in trouble.

Unconfessed sin in our life can hinder healing. Confession and repentance help to create the space needed for God to do amazing works in us and through us. Unconfessed sin is a real stumbling block in our lives.

1. Are you living in fear or faith? If you find yourself living in fear, I want you to pray specifically for the peace of heaven to come upon you and take the place of the fear that you're holding onto. If you are living in faith, I want you to praise God for the beautiful peace that has come upon you and your life.
2. What sin are you living with that is blocking God from doing an amazing work in you and through you? Confess with your mouth and repent with your heart right now. God is waiting with arms wide open for you!

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