

## **James 5:13 – 16**

### **Message: “The Efficacy of Prayer”**

**Central Thought:** Prayer is more than a mathematical or magical formula to get what we want. Prayer reveals the heart of God the Father and points us heavenward.

**Definition of prayer:** Prayer is continuing a conversation with God that God has started through His Word and His grace, which eventually becomes a full encounter with Him.

### **Misconception #1: Prayer and praise are not connected**

#### **What does James say?**

Do everything for the glory of God

#### **What does it mean for us today?**

Begin with the Word

### **Misconception #2: Prayer is between me and God only**

#### **What does James say?**

Do life together

#### **What does it mean for us today?**

Make prayer a foundation

### **Misconception #3: Prayer Doesn't Work Because I Didn't Get What I wanted**

#### **What is James Saying?**

Pursue righteousness

### **Application – What Does it Mean for Us?**

Confession empowers community

### **For reflection and LIFE Group facilitation:**

1. What is your definition of prayer?
2. What are some misconceptions you have about prayer?
3. Is there danger in praying only our feelings?
4. Why is confession so uncomfortable?
5. What are the benefits of praying the Word of God?