

Pastor Matt Morrell
Sunday, May 26, 2019
Fourth Baptist Church

Effective Prayer for Spiritual Strength

James 5:13-18

James 5:13-18 is not referring to physical sickness and healing, but spiritual weakness and restoration. Therefore, this passage isn't just applicable for the hospital room or hospice patient, but is meaningful to all of us in the course of our Christian lives.

I. Prayer for _____ when

_____ trials (13).

II. Prayer for _____ when needing

_____ (14-15).

III. Prayer for _____ when confessing

_____ (16a).

IV. Prayer for _____ when our

_____ are dry (16b-18).

The story of Elijah and the drought would certainly be a strange illustration if James had physical illness and healing in view throughout this passage. Certainly there are numerous clear biblical illustrations of healing he could have drawn from.

The picture of rain pouring down on parched ground perfectly illustrates God's outpouring of spiritual blessings on the dry and parched souls of struggling believers. And He does both in response to the righteous prayers of godly people.

- John MacArthur