Discussion Questions

James 5:13-18

Week of February 19, 2017

1. In what ways is praise a form of prayer?
2. Why do the cheerful need a prescription for prayer? Why do we need to be reminded to pray and to praise God in times of cheerfulness and blessing?
3. In what ways have you failed to pray, to praise God in times of blessing and cheerfulness?
4. How does Paul’s example in Romans 8 challenge us to pray and give praise in times of cheerfulness?
5. Why is it significant we are told to call upon the elders to pray over us in our sickness? (James 5:14)
6. When was the last time you called upon the elders to come and pray over your sickness? Why should this be an important practice for us?
7. What connection is there between physical sickness and sin?
8. Douglas Moo stated, “To ask “in Jesus’ name” means not simply to utter his name, but to take into account his will. Only those requests offered “in that will” are granted. Prayer for healing offered in the confidence that God will answer that prayer *does* bring healing; but only when it is God’s will to heal will that faith, itself a gift of God, be present.”

How does this help us when we are praying for healing and not seeing God answer that prayer?

1. What does James 5:16 reveal to us about our relationship to one another in the church body?
2. While physical healing is being prayed for in this passage, what is James’ primary focus in these verses?
3. What does your current prayer life look like? Who do you pray for? What do you pray for? What should be the focus of our prayers for one another?
4. In what ways are you praying by faith for the impossible?