13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. 17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18 Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. 19 My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, 20 let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Quotes

"As it is the business of tailors to make clothes and of cobblers to mend shoes, so it is the business of Christians to pray." -Martin Luther"

"The greatest tragedy in life is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer" -F.B. Meyer on prayer

"No Matter how weak or strong your prayer life is right now, you can learn to grow even stronger." -Donald S Whitney (the author of Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life) on prayer

Andrew Murray, South African minister and author of with Christ in the school of prayer, wrote, "Reading a book about prayer, listening to lectures and talking about it is very good, but it won't teach you to pray. You get nothing without exercise, without practice. I might listen for a year to a professor of music playing the most beautiful music, but that won't teach me to play an instrument"

Notes from the message:					

Scriptures on prayer: Matt 7:7-11; Matt 6:5-15; Matt 17:14-21; Mark 13:32-42; John 15:5-8; John 17; Acts 4:23-31; Acts 10:9; Acts 12:5-19; Acts 16:25-34; Luke 18:1-14; Col 4:2-6; Phil 4:6-7; 1 Thes 5:16-18; 1 Thes 3:9-13; Heb 4:16

What stands out to you in these verses?
What is prayer?
Why does God allow us to pray to Him?
Why doesn't God always answer our prayer request the way we want Him to?

Have you ever had a prayer answered? What were the answered requests?
What do you think the appropriate response is when God answers your prayer?
How does prayer make a difference?
Why are we told to pray for one another? Do you do this?
What are some of the benefits of having a group of friends that pray for one another?

James 5:16b

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Prayer Ideas:

Ask God to show you the power of prayer in your own life Ask God to give you the desire to pray more Ask God to heal the sick that you know Take time to listen to God as you pray Thank God for listening to you and loving you

Prayer Requests from your community group
Give thanks to God for answering your prayers