

DEANE PARISH CHURCH
Home Group Notes
w/b Sunday 27th September 2015
Prayer for healing

As we will be thinking about prayer for healing in this study, please be especially sensitive in your groups discussions. Most, if not all, of us will have prayed for healing of one kind or another and the hoped for healing has not been forthcoming.

1. Take some time in your group to share any answers to prayer that members may have witnessed in recent days, weeks or months.

Read James 5:13-18

2. According to these verses, what different kinds of prayer does James encourage us to engage in?

3. James here gives us one model of prayer for healing. Do elders (i.e. church leaders) have a hotline to God, or special spiritual powers that other Christians don't have? Why does James instruct the sick to 'call the elders of the church' (v14)?

4. Who can pray for the miraculous (vv 17-18)?

5. What is the significance of anointing with oil?

6. What is the link between repentance and (i) physical healing (ii) spiritual healing?

7. Some Christians seem reluctant to pray for physical healing in this world but are very happy to pray for *strength to endure* illness. Some Christians are very keen to pray for physical healing in this world, and if the healing is not forthcoming put it down to God having other plans, or that they have not had enough faith. What are the rights and wrongs of both positions?

8. What is going on when hoped for healing doesn't seem forthcoming? (see also James 1:2-4)

Take time in your group to share needs and to pray for each other.