

*“And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.”*

**James 5:15-16**

What a privilege it is to pray, knowing that God is always there, waiting for us to come to Him. The disciples asked our Lord: “Teach us to pray,” and He gave them what we refer to as the Lord’s Prayer which we may also use as a model for our prayer life. Many of us struggle with our prayer lives, whether or not we pray faithfully, eloquently, or effectively.

One of our great privileges is that of intercessory prayer.

Some years ago, our beloved Dr. Duke spoke on praying for the sick and I would like to share my outline of his wisdom:

1. Really concentrate and don’t let your mind wander.
2. Pray with trusting expectation.
3. Pray imaginatively, watching and helping as the Lord works in the life of the person He is healing.
4. See the person made well and see that the person will recover because we are praying.
5. Keep your mental attitude free of pity and full of confidence and optimism.

In another translation of James 5:15 and 16, we read: *“And prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up. . . pray for one another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”*

*Dear Heavenly Father, Please remove the “sin of prayerlessness” from our lives and make us faithful prayer stewards. Amen.*

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(Submitted in 2007)

