



## **Pray About Everything**

**Main Scripture:** James 5:13-20

### **Discussion Questions**

- “Show me the way you live and I will show you what you believe.” This is one of the themes that runs through the book of James. How would measure up if someone based the following exclusively on how you lived your life... not what you said:
  - Loving God: spending time with Jesus in prayer and the Word
  - Loving insiders: accountability, community, authenticity
  - Loving outsiders: the lost, the least, generosity
- **Read James 5:13-18** – Pastor Mike pointed out the fact that “James the activist ends on prayer” and what a paradox that was. Look at your own life: are you more of an activist in your relationship with God (loving outsiders, justice, the poor, etc.) or more of a mystic (i.e. spending more time seeking God than reaching out)?
  - How can you ensure that there is balance between these two?
- Prayer and patience are thematic in James. P. Mike said that “The key to your maturity and growth is patience.” Do you agree? Why or why not?
  - **Read James 1:2-4.** Give examples of how this has been true in your life.
- The key to patience is prayer. How does prayer give you patience and build up that fruit of the Spirit?
- “Show me an irritable dad, wife, grandparent, roommate, etc. and I will show you a prayerless person.” Is this always true?
  - What are some ways we fake it without prayer?
- We pray because... we don't know what we are doing. What did Pastor Mike mean by that? How does prayer change the circumstance or even the way we view a circumstance in our life?
- If you don't pray in the good times your heart gets warped. Prayer is the way that we remember that it isn't because of us that we are blessed. What are some other ways that prayer changes and shapes our paradigm?
- We pray because... we were made for more than this. The Gospel is transcendent. Heaven intersects not just with earth but also with people. How have you seen this to be true in your life or the life of those around you?
- Mike said his one wish for our congregation was that we would all have a radical prayer life... to seek the Lord an hour a day. Challenge your small group to go for it!