

Prayer in the *Status Quo* – James 5:13-16
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The epistle of James is known for its practical instruction to believers. In this passage, James' exhortation concerning prayer reminds us that prayer is to be a normal, practical part of the believer's experience. To neglect, therefore, the activity of prayer is to disobey God's will for us as His people.

1. Prayer is normative in the personal life of the believer (13).
 - a. In seasons of *distress*, we must pray.
 - b. In seasons of *delight*, we must praise.
2. Prayer is normative in the corporal life of the church (14-16)
 - a. Church Leadership: the *example* of prayer (14-15)
 - b. Church Membership: the *energy* of prayer (15-16)

There are at least three ongoing activities among the body of Christ suggested by James in these verses:

- (1) Repentance
- (2) Confession
- (3) Intercession