Crossroads International Church Matthew Lyle

Series: James: Faith in Action 2024-12-22

**Patience and Prayer *in Action***

***James 5:7-20***

Faith and Prayer in Action redefines patience as more than passive waiting. While patience is often seen as the opposite of action—an idle state of enduring delay or hardship—in biblical terms, patience is active. It involves steadfastness, trust, and engagement with God's purpose, even in the face of uncertainty or injustice.

I. Perfecting Patience (5:7-12)

A. Patience in Waiting: Trust God's timing, like a farmer waits for the harvest. (7-8)

B. Patience in Community: Avoid grumbling and stand united with others. (9)

C. Patience in Suffering: Endure hardships with hope, knowing the Lord is near. (10-11a)

D. Patience through Examples: Look to the prophets and Job as models of perseverance. (11b)

E. Patience with Integrity: Speak truthfully without oaths, letting your "yes" be yes. (12)

Just as patience perfects our trust in God's timing,

prayer deepens our connection to His power and presence.

II. Powerful Prayers (5:13-20)

A. Prayer in all Season: Whether in trouble or joy, turn to God in prayer. (13)

B. Prayers of Faith: Anoint and pray for the weary, trusting God to heal and forgive. (14-15)

C. Prayers of the Righteous: Confess sins and pray for one another. (16-18)

D. Prayers That Pursue: Seek to restore those who wander from the truth. (19-20)

Conclusion: Patience in action isn’t just sitting around

—it’s choosing to stay strong in faith, keep praying, and trust God,

giving Him the chance to work in us and through us

to make us better for His plans.

**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.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=james%205%3A7-20&version=ESV#fen-ESV-30354b)]

**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.