



Week 14

Text: James 5:16-20, John 13:34, 1 Kings 17:1, 1 Kings 18:1, 1 Kings 18:41, Matthew 13:4-5, Matthew 13:7-8, Matthew 18:12-14, Proverbs 10:12, Romans 8:37-38,

Topic(s): Prayer, straying from faith

Big Ideas of the Message: The church is an important gift from God to help us understand true dependence on God and true interdependence with others. We are to be concerned for each other's spiritual lives, and be in relationship with other believers to grow in our understanding of God and how to be better disciples of Jesus.

Application Point: We are to pray for everyone, not just those we feel deserve God's blessings. We are to love our brother's and sisters in Christ and we need to reach out to those who have strayed from the faith or from church.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
2. Read James 5:16-18 and the passages from 1 Kings. Is it hard for you to be persistent in prayer? What are the things that cause you to stop praying for certain things or certain people?
3. How does this story of Elijah encourage you in your own prayer life?
4. Read James 5:19-20. Are there people you know who have stopped attending church or strayed from their faith? How are you able to encourage them to come back to church or their faith?
5. Read the passages from Matthew.13. What are your thoughts?
6. Read Matthew 18:12-14, Romans 8:37-38 and Proverbs 10:12. Write your reaction to these passages with regards to how God views those who are straying. Why is love so important in bringing people back to faith and in our faith communities?
7. Again James reminds us to pray. We are called to be obedient to what God is asking us to do, but it is God who does the work in the lives of his people. If we truly believed this, how would it change the way we walk out our faith.
7. How can we pray for you? hopecommunitychurch.life.prayer@gmail.com