

## Huddle Overview - James Study Week 8

### **Discipleship Definition:**

*Learning to love and follow Jesus—together—by His strength, in everyday life.*

### **What are huddles at Foundations?**

- Groups of 3-8 people (or 3-4 couples) that meet for one hour per week at a time and location of your choosing. Larger groups should plan for 75 minutes.
- Huddles last for 8 weeks. At the end of each 8-week session, you can stay with your group, add to your group or even change groups and topics.
- While gathering on Sunday is vital to spiritual growth, so is connecting with others to encourage one another, discussing what it means to follow Jesus and praying for one another. These practices are detailed in our **RHYTHMS** course (which is not necessary to take part in huddles, but highly recommended).

### ***Our Mission at Foundations is to bring the extraordinary lifechanging message of Jesus Christ to a lost and broken world.***

- Huddles are one way we prepare to do this very thing, and we can't do that unless our lives are being transformed by Him.
- Hence, the goal of every session is that you will grow more like Jesus in some small way.
- In order to do this, we will focus on God's Word, encourage one another and commit to praying for one another.
- Each week, there are *individual rhythms* we encourage that will help you "love and follow Jesus."
- Similarly, there are *corporate rhythms* that help us in our spiritual formation.
- Consistent practice of these rhythms is part of the holistic development of disciples, and this booklet is designed to touch on that development.

## Rhythms Overview

**The individual rhythms** (for those who haven't taken the Rhythms course):

Prayer: Talking to God and listening to Him via His Word, His Spirit-Filled people and His creation. If you don't know how to pray, a good place to start is the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 5.

Abide in the Word: Reading the Bible and prayerfully asking God to show you who He is and what He wants for you. A good practice is to read with a pen in hand, and write your thoughts in a journal as He leads them.

Silence: Choosing to avoid speaking in order to listen to what He might want to say to us.

Solitude: Avoidance of interaction with others in order to be alone with Him. Silence enhances solitude. Have you intentionally gotten away to be alone (including technology/social media)?

Reflection (especially effective at the end of the day, maybe before sleep): Take some time in stillness to experience His presence. Tell God things you're thankful for. Make note of where you experienced Him today—or where you didn't. Note instances of loving your "neighbor" well—or failure to do so. Ask God for what He may want for you in the day tomorrow.

Other individual rhythms that will likely be practiced less frequently:

Fasting (food; if there's an area you are seeking specific guidance), giving joyfully (financially as an act of worship) and rest (setting aside time to enjoy your life and choosing to refrain from work).

**The corporate rhythms** (for those who haven't taken the Rhythms course):

Worship gathering: A time for our family to be together to participate corporately in the rhythms of worshipping together.

Participation in community: A time to engage in huddle, as well as other forms of being together as a church family (such as concerts, conferences/classes, events, etc.).

Lord's Supper: An opportunity for our family to reflect on the person and work of Jesus and to look forward in hope to His coming again.

Baptism: A one-time action of a declaration of faith in Christ. It is our hope that everyone be baptized, and that they also celebrate others who are being baptized.

Using your gifts to serve the Body: We have been given a gift to help the body of Christ come to maturity in faith, and we benefit by your presence.

Having a ministry of love for neighbors: We choose to exemplify the abundant life in order to fulfill our mission of bringing the extraordinary life of Jesus Christ to a lost and broken world.

## **Prayer, Day 1**

- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude, and talk to God. Be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down in a journal what you talked with God about and how He answered.
- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to simply pray using a Psalm...they are really great prayers! Find one that you resonate with, and pray it aloud. Simply read through a Psalm, such as Psalm 23 or 51. Pray aloud, even if in a whisper, slowly and with concentration on the words. Try to be attentive to the thoughts that come to mind and discern if those may be something God is trying to tell you.

## **Time in the Word, Day 1, Read James 5:13**

### Background and Insights on the Reading:

James encourages his readers to respond to all of the circumstance of their lives with prayer. That's what people who trust God do. This is a consistent theme of James's letter: a person's actions prove what they really believe. So, any Christian who is suffering or who is in trouble should naturally be inclined to pray. James's letter began with teaching on how people who trust God should respond to their trials. Trials will come. Suffering will come. When it comes, it provides an opportunity to move closer to God, asking for help, asking for strength to remain faithful in the suffering (j).

God doesn't promise to take all afflictions away from us, but He does promise to give us His joy and peace (John 15:11). He also promises to cause all things to work for good to those who love Him (Romans 8:28). Turning to Him in prayer shows that we are reliant upon Him. Through prayer we can align our actions to His will and our attitudes to His desires. Sometimes when the going gets tough, we may give up, complain, or even doubt God. God is the ultimate comforter and knows exactly what we are going through. We should turn to Him during difficult times.

How about if everything is going smoothly and we are doing well? James says that when you are cheerful, you should sing praises to God. It's a way we can respond to God's goodness by proclaiming our thankfulness for His abundant blessings. It shows that we recognize that God is the source for the good things that happen in our lives. Every good thing is from above (c).

### Questions for Reflection:

- Think of a time when you were experiencing a troubling circumstance. What are some ways prayer helped you grow closer to God through the experience?
  
- What do you think are some common negative responses to suffering/experiencing trials and how can you avoid these pitfalls?

## **Prayer, Day 2**

- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God. Be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down in a journal what you talked with God about and how He answered.
- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray using Paul's prayer of thanksgiving for others as an example (from Ephesians 1:15-22): You can use this to pray for yourself and for others. Tell God you love Him. Ask God for spiritual wisdom and that He would reveal Himself in ways you can know Him more. Pray that you know the hope of His calling you. Pray that you would know the riches of glory of the inheritance of the saints. Ask God that you would know the power He gives to those who believe. Praise Him for being the God who is above all rule and authority and has the name above all other names. Thank Him for being the head of the church.

## **Time in the Word, Day 2, Read James 5:14**

### Background and Insights on the Reading:

The Problem – The Greek word for “sick” in verse 14 is “asthenia”. This basically means “to be weak” and it could refer to spiritual or physical weakness. But another word for sick is used in verse 15, “kamno”. This means something like “fatigue”. Sometimes it is used regarding those who are already dead. This is the problem, extreme sickness.

The Solution – The sick believer is to call for the elders. This is another indication that his illness is quite serious. If a person is critically ill, he should invite the leaders of the church to come. Note that the sick person takes this initiative. These godly elders are then to come and pray over the sick person and anoint him in the name of the Lord. Elders are overseers in the church. Their responsibility is to shepherd the flock (see Titus 1 and 1 Timothy 3) (c).

To anoint someone with oil in the culture of the time meant to pour oil over them for one of four possible purposes. Oil was sometimes used in the ancient world as a general medicinal cure. At other times, it was used to express concern, as a physical demonstration of emotional care for a person. Or it's possible that James meant for the oil to be part of a sacrament of healing or a physical symbol that someone was being set apart for God's purposes (j).

### Questions for Reflection:

- In what ways might sharing your health struggles and your prayer requests with others, be a positive support for you, both emotionally and spiritually?
- Some people pray with the understanding that God desires to answer our prayers, others may pray with the expectation that he might or might not answer them? Which best describes you and why do you think this is the case?

### **Prayer, Day 3**

- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God. Be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down in a journal what you talked with God about and how He answered.
- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray using the Lord's Prayer as an outline (for your own words). Tell God how thankful you are for the privilege of calling the King of Kings, "our Father," and that He listens and hears. God is worthy of honor and worship. We should acknowledge that things on earth are not what they are supposed to be, and that we should ask God for an awareness of His presence and strive to see what He wants this world to be. We should let others see His Kingdom by how we live. We should be thankful that He provides our basic needs. We should pray for forgiveness and forgive others. We should name our weaknesses and our temptations, and for the Spirit to strengthen us. We should close with praise.

### **Time in the Word, Day 3, Read James 5:15-16**

#### Background and Insights on the Reading:

James writes that it should be common practice for Christians to confess our sins to each other and to pray for each other, so that we may be healed. As in the previous verses, some Bible scholars read the word "healed" here as a reference to healing from physical illness. Others understand it to mean healing from discouragement and spiritual weakness. In either case, this healing requires two things from Christians. We are both to confess our sins to each other, and to pray for each other. James offers no details about what this should look like in practice. He likely has in mind the idea of Christians being in close relationship with several other Christians. We need fellow believers with whom we can be vulnerable. In that setting, each could acknowledge to the other what sins are most difficult for them, and all could pray for each other to overcome those sins.

James's command is for us, as much as it's for his original readers. The church would be far healthier if more of us prayed for each other, in family love, to overcome our specific sins. After all, James writes, prayer works. God listens and responds. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective because God hears and takes action (j).

#### Questions for Reflection:

- What are some reasons to continue praying even if it seems God hasn't heard your prayers?
- The promise here doesn't seem to suggest when or how God will raise him up. Perhaps it will be immediate. Perhaps it will be in eternity. Some say God's answer to prayer may be yes, no, or not yet. What are your thoughts on this?

Additional resources - see appendix.

## Prayer, Day 4

- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God. Be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down in a journal what you talked with God about and how He answered.
- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray using the ACTS method as an outline (for your own words). **Adoration** - (a time of worship), don't be afraid of "artistic expressions" here, or to use Psalms or hymns or other forms of praise. **Confession** - we all fall short and miss the mark. Confession of sin helps us in our relationship to God. **Thanksgiving** - simply tell God what you're thankful for. **Supplication** - ask God for needs of the world, our country and leaders, our church, and anything and everything else. God wants to hear from you.

## Time in the Word, Day 4, Read James 5:17-18

### Background and Insights on the Reading:

In the previous verse, James wrote that the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. Now he offers the example of the prayer of Elijah. Elijah was a prophet of God, but even so he was nothing more than a fallible, mortal, limited human man. And yet, when he prayed that it would not rain, it didn't rain. Of course, neither James's readers nor modern Christians easily think of Elijah as just an ordinary man. He was used by God to do amazing, miraculous things. This, though, is part of James's point. Elijah's power came from God, in response to Elijah's prayers.

Elijah was, ultimately, just a mortal man. And yet, his prayer was powerful and effective. Prayer works, but not because of the power of the one who prays. It works because God hears, and responds with all of His power and effectiveness. James's larger point is that people who trust God, pray in response to all of life's circumstances. We pray for ourselves. We pray for each other. We pray for healing. We pray for others to overcome their sin. God receives all of those prayers and responds to them in love and out of His great power and goodness (j).

### Questions for Reflection:

- What is James trying to get across when he says that Elijah was "a human being, even as we are," and then goes on to point out the powerful effects of his prayer?
  
- What is he aiming to tell you about prayers and the God who hears them?

Additional resources - see appendix.

## **Prayer, Day 5**

- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God. Be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down in a journal what you talked with God about and how He answered.
- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray using the breath method. Simply read through a Psalm and breathe in as you read the first line, and then exhale on the second. Take deep, long, slow breaths. Good examples are Psalm 46 and 47, but almost every Psalm can be done this way. Try to focus on the ones that focus on God and/or resonate with where you are at the moment.

## **Time in the Word, Day 5, Read James 5:19**

### Background and Insights on the Reading:

James comes to the conclusion of his letter with a challenge to his readers: make an attempt to bring back those among you who have wandered from the truth. He refers to men and women who were once part of the Christian community who have lost their way. Perhaps he has in mind believers who became spiritually weak. Perhaps these were never true believers in Christ, at all, but merely part of the community. In either case, they've wandered away after false ideas.

James doesn't address how the faithful ones might accomplish this rescue, only that they should try. Even reaching out to someone who has wandered from God's truth, with grace and compassion, is sometimes enough to bring them back into the community. In any case, the attempt to reach and restore these sinful wanderers should be made with great love and concern for their souls. James is not speaking of condemnation, judgment, or arrogance. He's speaking of a sincere interest—a loving effort—to help someone else (j).

### Questions for Reflection:

- What are some practical ways you might start a conversation with a believer who appears to have wandered from the truth?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What are your thoughts on attempting to reach out to a person in the church community who has wandered, but you don't know if he is truly a believer?

Additional resources - see appendix.

## **Prayer, Day 6: A Time for Reflection**

- Traditional time of Examen. This is a version of the five-step Daily Examen that St. Ignatius practiced.
- Become aware of God’s presence. Breathe and slow down. Ask God to make you aware of His presence and to bring to mind moments of your day to focus on.
- Review the day with gratitude. Walk through your day and give thanks for areas where you saw God “show up” and for His blessings.
- Pay attention to your emotions. The things you feel when you review often highlight areas where God wants you to focus and what he wants to teach you. Often this results in confession when you see your emotions out of line with walking in the Spirit.
- Choose one feature of the day and pray about it. Ask God to show you moments where you loved others well (or, conversely, He may bring to mind an area you didn’t). Give thanks or ask forgiveness as warranted.
- Look toward tomorrow. Think through your day tomorrow and ask God what He may be calling you to do or be in the upcoming day.

## **Time in the Word, Day 6, Read James 5:20**

### Background and Insights on the Reading:

Verse 20 completes a thought James began in the prior verse. In verse 19, he stated that if one of his readers would go and bring back a former member of their community who has wandered from God's truth, that rescuing Christian should understand what's at stake. Those wandering ones have walked away from truth and into sin. What they now believe is error. They are trusting a lie that is leading them away from the path of faith in God. If they can be turned back, they—or their soul—will be saved from death and their many sins will be covered over.

Reading this verse, even today, a question remains: whether these wandering ones are true Christians or people who were drawn to the Christian community, but never placed their faith in Christ. Some commentators suggest that since their souls will be saved from death, which is likely eternal death, these must be unbelievers who wandered toward Christ and then away from Him without ever crossing over into a sincere commitment of faith. Other commentators suggest that perhaps these are genuine Christians who will be saved from actual, physical death in this life if they can be turned back to walking in faith in God. Still other teachers would suggest that these people wandering into sin were genuine Christians who are in danger of losing their salvation. That option is not consistent with the teaching of the rest of Scripture. The salvation we have in Christ is secure. For that reason, the first two options—or some combination—are the reasonable way to interpret this passage (j).

Believers are responsible for restoring straying brothers and sisters in the faith. Thus, mature Christian fellowship is a safety net to protect all from falling away from God (c).

### Questions for Reflection:

Galatians 6:1 – Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.

Here in Galatians 6:1, you have a command and a warning. What are some ways you might be tempted and how can you avoid these?

## Huddle Meeting:

General Check-In (10 minutes)

Emotional Check-In (10 minutes)

- Using the SACHET wheel, describe how you're doing emotionally right now. You may want to write down some of these to pray for your huddle during the week.



Rhythms Check-In (10 minutes)

- Describe your experience with the individual rhythms this week.
- Describe your experience with the corporate rhythms this week.
- How can the huddle encourage you this week in these areas? Or.....How can you encourage the huddle this week in these areas?

Discussion for Growth (30 Minutes)

- Feel free to discuss any questions from the prior days' studies.
- What is something you feel God truly taught you this week? What is one way you can put into practice what you learned?
- Have there been times in your life when you prayed and it seemed God didn't hear you? Why did you feel that way? What truths from this week's study, might help you to have more confidence in prayer?

## Appendix

### References

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### **Time in the Word, Day 1, James 5:13, Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.**

Related Scripture:

On suffering:

- Philippians 4:6 – Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
- Psalms 27:13-14 – I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.
- Psalms 55:22 – Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

On singing praises:

- Psalms 105:2 – Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.
- Ephesians 5:19 – Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,
- Colossians 3:16 – Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

### **Time in the Word, Day 2, James 5:14, Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.**

Verse 14 and 15 have been the source of controversy among Christians. The question James is asking is how should believers respond when we are "sick," and what result should we expect when we take action. Most translations render the Greek word *asthenei* here as "sick," and many Bible scholars agree that James has in mind a physical illness. Some scholars, however, suggest that James is referring to a

spiritual weakness or lack of faith. The Greek word is sometimes translated in that or a similar sense (e.g., Romans 5:6). The word carries mostly a sense of weakness, or being feeble.

If James has spiritual weakness in mind, his instruction is directed at someone who does not feel firm in his faith. This might be because of ongoing suffering or some other cause. Such a person should call for the elders—the spiritual leaders—of the church to pray for him. This instruction comes with the promise that the Lord will reestablish his faith. And, that any sin responsible for his spiritual weakness will be forgiven.

The other possibility is that James simply means for someone with a physical illness to do the same, with the promise of eventual physical healing and the assurance of forgiveness of sins. Whatever the case, the elders are called to anoint this unwell person with oil in the name of the Lord (j).

James is referring to someone who is incapacitated physically. In Scripture, oil was both a medicine (see the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:30-37) and a symbol of the Spirit of God (as used in anointing kings, see Samuel 16:1-13). Thus, oil can represent both the medical and spiritual spheres of life. Christians should not separate the physical and the spiritual – Jesus Christ is Lord over both the body and the spirit (b).

We can all agree on several things from this verse: First, God doesn't intend for Christians to suffer alone. Nor does He want them to pray for themselves in private without ever revealing their problems. Second, God does intend for the spiritual leaders of local churches to be ready and willing to pray together for the struggling people in their congregations (j).

Related Scripture:

- Mark 6:13 – They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.
- Psalms 30:2 – Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.

**Time in the Word, Day 3, James 5:15-16, 15 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.**

James describes the expected result to that "prayer offered in faith" by the elders: The Lord will raise the person up. Any sins he has committed will be forgiven. If these two verses are describing a person who is physically ill, the promise is of a physical healing. If they are describing a person struggling with a weak faith, the promise is for a restored trust in God. In either case, if the cause of the problem is because of sin in that person's life, that sin will be forgiven.

Any verse that seems to be offering an unconditional promise of physical healing, even in response to a prayer of faith, may well cause confusion. Will every person who follows these specific steps in this specific order be healed of any illness at any time? It's a delicate question, but the promise of the verse requires us to look at the language closely. When the elders of the church pray on behalf of this person with sincere faith, while anointing him or her with oil, the Lord will raise this person up. The promise

doesn't seem to suggest when or how God will raise him up. Perhaps it will be immediate. Perhaps it will be in eternity, which is certainly a less satisfying answer. In any case, the believer in Christ will always be raised eventually and forever, we can be assured.

James's larger point is that Christians should not suffer in private. We should pray, yes, but we should also get others to pray for us. And we should expect God to answer (j).

“The prayer offered in faith” does not refer to the faith of the sick person, but to the faith of the people praying. God heals, faith doesn't, and all prayers are subject to God's will. But our prayers are part of God's healing process. That is why God often waits for our prayers of faith before intervening to heal a person. Christ has made it possible for us to go directly to God for forgiveness. But confessing our sins to each other still has an important place in the life of the church (b).

FORGIVENESS. “And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven” (James 5:15). For those who have grown up in the church, such a promise may seem unremarkable. But consider what is being said by James here. Sins are not forgiven through some act of self-atoning. Sinners do not need to feel sorry intensely enough or berate themselves long enough. This goes against our natural intuitions. James says that all that needs to be done is open, honest, penitent confession. That is how sins are forgiven. In the world of the gospel, we are freed from the masks we all tend to wear. We can be honest about who and what we truly are. For in Christ, we are fully and freely accepted (h).

Many people believe that James is talking about a special gift of faith—that is, a gift of extraordinary certainty that God gives to a person when he has already determined to heal someone. First Corinthians 12:9 may be talking about a gift of faith like that. How does that understanding of a gift of faith according to God's will differ from an understanding that would say James is commanding us to work up enough faith within ourselves so that people will be healed through our praying?

Another possibility is that James is simply picking up again on the teaching of Jesus, which he does often. In that case, he would simply be teaching about the power of praying with faith, just as Jesus often did. Read Matthew 21:21–22. Those verses sound just as absolute as James's saying that “the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick,” but they also assume the theological truth that God is sovereign—that is, he determines how he will answer our prayers. In other words, you will get what you ask for when you pray in faith if what you ask for is in line with God's will. That is a truth stated explicitly in 1 John 5:14–15, but it underlies all the Bible's teaching about prayer. If that's the case, then what is James's meaning when he says, “And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick?” Once we understand all the details, James's point comes through loud and clear: prayer is powerful, and God wants to answer prayer! (h).

The verse also teaches us the power of prayer. The prayer of the righteous elder is heard by God and the sickness is healed. Prayer does matter. God's sovereignty and our prayer is one of the paradoxes of Scripture. God is sovereign and has a perfect plan. Yet He also commands us to pray and this prayer at least appears to change things. We do need to pray righteous prayers out of a righteous lifestyle, full of faith, and believe that God hears and will answer (c).

Related Scripture:

- Matthew 17:20-21 – He replied, “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”
- Matthew 21:21-22 – Jesus replied, “Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”

**Time in the Word, Day 4, James 5:17-18, 17 Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. 18 Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.**

The story of Elijah’s prayer and the resulting drought is told in 1 Kings 17–18. The drought was a divine punishment on King Ahab and the people of Israel for their disobedience and idolatry. Elijah and Moses appeared with Jesus at the Transfiguration (Mark 9:2–13). Elijah represented the Prophets and Moses represented the Law, both of which Jesus brought to fulfillment. Indeed, Jesus is ultimately the prophet like Elijah who was to come and turn the hearts of God’s people back to God himself (Mal. 4:5–6) (h).

James loves giving examples and this is an example of a righteous person’s prayer and God listening. It is interesting to note that the drought was discipline from God upon a rebellious people. After they repented and turned back to the Lord, this discipline was lifted and it rained again. Thus, this passage reinforces the conclusion that the sickness was caused by sin and healing was brought up about after repentance (c).

Related Scripture:

- 1 Kings 17:1 – Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

**Time in the Word, Day 5, James 5:19, My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back,**

As believers, we have a responsibility to help our brothers and sisters stay the course. If we see them turning from the truth, we need to share with them from Scripture about what they are doing and encourage them to repent and turn back to the Lord. Sometimes they might be upset and get angry and offended. We still have to do it. Speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). God does not want us to be apathetic to the souls of our brethren! (c).

Related Scripture:

- Matthew 18:15 – “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.

**Time in the Word, Day 6, James 5:20, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.**

Related Scripture:

1 John 1:7 – But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.