

***Sermon Title:* CONFESSION AND PRAYER**

Date: November 3, 2024 - James 5:16-18

Central Idea: The cure for sickness is in personal confession and prayerful concern. Are you practicing confession and concern?

Introduction: James has been telling us that all of life is to be bathed in prayer: prayers when we are down, prayers of song when we are up, prayers for the sick, and now, prayers for each other. A mutual concern for one another is the way to combat sickness, discouragement, and downfall.

I. Relationship to God, James 1:18

II. Relationship to one another, James 5:16b;
Colossians 1:9-12

1. Power of mutual confession, 1 Timothy 2:5-6
2. Power of mutual prayer, Galatians 6:1-2
3. Dangers to avoid
 - (1) To an individual
 - (2) To a fellow Christian
 - (3) To a mature Christian
 - (4) Must be concrete
 - (5) As God directs

III. Example of Elijah, James 5:16b-18; Colossians 4:12

Conclusion: Today's church needs to live out two great duties of this passage. First, it needs to be a confessing church. The second great duty of the church is to engage in powerful prayer, which comes through purity and passion.