

Read James 5:13-20

Take note of which words and phrases stand out to you.

Understanding the Story

1) With whom does James direct believers to pray? How does this challenge our individualistic approaches toward prayer and confession?

2) In this passage, James draws parallels between sin and sickness, confession and health.

What do you believe is the relationship between sin and sickness?

What biblical support can you cite?

What is the relationship between confession and healing?

Living the Story

3) Do you think that sin can be overcome by human effort and goodness alone? Before you answer that question, take a look at the way you practice confession and requests for healing – what do your actual practices reveal about the way you “deal” with your sin?

4) In what ways would you like to grow as a person who prays powerfully? How could your Life Group engage more faithfully in prayer for one another?

5) Dietrich Bonhoeffer describes confession as the “break-through to community.”

What do you think he means and what do you make of that claim?

How does this claim challenge or support the kind of community you experience within your Thumbtack Group?