

THE POWER OF EFFECTIVE KNEELING

James 5:13–18

Who can measure the impact of fervent, confident, persistent prayer that takes Heaven by storm? Such passionate communication with the Almighty is the slender nerve that moves the muscles of divine omnipotence. How well John Welsh knew that! Eight of his twenty-four hours every day were so invested. John Bunyan, David Brainerd, George Muller, Hudson Taylor, Rees Howells, and C.T. Studd were cut from the same piece of cloth. It was said that John Wesley's prayers changed the face of England more than his preaching. "The saint who advances on his knees, never retreats!" wrote the missionary Jim Elliot. Today our thoughts center on this all-important subject of coming before our God as we learn from one whose life of prayer gave new meaning to the power of effective kneeling.

I. Personal Example of James

- His unusual nickname

- His frequent reminders

II. Practical Instruction of James

- When we're anxious (v. 13) . . . *PRAY!*

- When we're sick (vv. 14–15) . . . *PRAY!*

- When sin is taking its toll (v. 16a) . . . *PRAY!*

- When facing huge obstacles (vv. 16b–18) . . . *PRAY!*

III. Relevant Reminders Regarding Prayer