



**Take it to the Lord in Prayer**  
**James 5:13-16**  
**June 1, 2014**

**Introduction:**

**Prayer is the greatest privilege of the Christian life; just simply being able to talk with God is so awesome. It is also the greatest power in the Christian life.**

***The lack of prayer is probably the greatest failure in my Christian life. I am certain that I do not pray enough. Most of us are simply too satisfied with our prayer life.***

**I. When Should We Pray?**

**A. When our emotions are suffering. (James 5:13a)**

**Principle:**

**When we find ourselves in trying times and circumstances, be careful not to criticize or grumble about other saints who might not be experiencing as difficult of a time as you are. Rather, we should pray for wisdom to understand the situation and use it for the glory of God.**

***I have noticed that life is a series of ups and downs, and highs and lows. The Bible says to weep with those that weep and rejoice with those that rejoice. One of the qualifications of a pastor is to be able to shift gears very quickly.***

**B. When our physical body is suffering. (James 5:14-15)**

**John MacArthur:**

**When the aspirin works, it is the Lord who has made it work; when the surgeon sets the broken limb and the bone knits, it is the Lord who has made it knit...There is always a spiritual dimension in healing...On no occasion should a Christian approach the doctor without also approaching God.**

## **II. How Do We Pray?**

**Four prerequisites for effective praying:**

- 1. We must ask.**
- 2. We must ask with the proper motive.**
- 3. We must ask with a clean heart.**
- 4. We must ask in faith.**