

From the Pastor:

We are ready to examine James 5:16 in our study of this important letter that James, the half-brother of Jesus, wrote to the Church, God's people scattered throughout the region of the Mideast and Europe.

James 5:16 reads, "Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

The context of this verse is "healing." Verses 14-15 are dealing with the subject of healing primarily. "The prayer of faith will save the sick." If you remember "to save" is from the Greek "sozo" which can mean (especially in this context) "to save one from disease, to make well, heal, restore to health." (Online Bible Greek Lexicon) And Verse 16 recorded, "that you may be healed."

Because of this context we have taken this passage to mean that we should let others know when we are suffering from some illness, weakness, or physical disability so that earnest supplications can be offered to God on the behalf of those who are sick. Because of this, we announce or send out prayer requests for those who have asked that their brethren in the church to pray for them.

The Greek word translated "trespasses" is "paraptoma." The Companion Bible in appendix 128 records the following about "paraptoma": "a falling aside, when one should have stood upright." The indication is that there is a weakness that keeps the person from standing upright—here the normal posture of a healthy person.

We consider it unwise to actually confess our sins to a person to seek their help in prayer unless that person is a very good and close friend whose opinion of you will not change if they know your sins. And, even when speaking of illness, not all the details of an individual's physical ailments are for public consumption.

The last sentence of verse 16 is often quoted, "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

There are many different translations of this sentence:

"The supplication of a righteous man availeth much in its working." (American Standard Version)

"Powerful is the heartfelt supplication of a righteous man." (The New Testament in Modern Speech-Weymouth)

"The prayers of the righteous have a powerful effect." (James Moffatt)

"The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects." (Revised Standard Version)

There is an article in the Life, Hope, and Truth website titled "The Key to Effective Prayer." The important part of this phrase is "the prayer of a righteous man." The New International Version translates this sentence, "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." Righteousness is the key to effective prayer.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	8:29pm	8:28pm	8:26pm
Sunset Friday 7-19	8:27pm	8:26pm	8:24pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



July 13, 2019

Victoria

Sermon: Jim Chapman

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Arnold Mendez
Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: In Accord
Sermon: Michael Watts

"He who despises the word will be destroyed, but he who fears the commandment will be rewarded."

Proverbs 13:13

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 7/13	Regular times and locations for all congregations.
Sabbath 7/20	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi and Harlingen.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Pot Luck: The next potluck will be on August 3.

Corpus Christi and Harlingen Speech Club: The first South Texas Speech Club meeting will be held Friday July 26th at the St. Paul United Church of Christ Meeting Hall. The meeting time is 6:00 pm --7:30 pm. A meal will follow at the Mendez Home at 8 pm. All are invited to the meal. See Janie Mendez for details about the meal.

Biblical Seminars: Harlingen and Corpus Christi will be hosting Noah's Ark and Early Man Seminars. The seminars will take place in Harlingen on the Sabbath of August 17th and the Corpus Christi Seminars will take place on the Sabbath of September 7th. The Noah's Ark seminar will take place from 10 am -12 noon. There will be a meal break and the Early Man Seminar will take place from 2-4 pm. Included in the presentations will be a question and answer session. For more information see the announcement link at:

<http://corpuschristi.cogwa.org/announcements/>