



Serve, Support, Strengthen

When Christians hurt: Praying for our Frenemies (friends who turn against us, hurt us)

- Welcome everyone – 1 min
- Open with prayer - 1 min
- Suggest feedback on answered prayer – 5 - 10min
- Closing prayer
- Time of Bible study – 40 minutes
- Questions – 10 minutes

Other related Bible studies in this series:

- When Christians hurt each other Part 1
- When someone in the church is hurting
- When people from church manipulate you
- Reasons people hurt people

1. Praying for those who hurt us.

Why do we call people who seem friends but hurt us, 'our enemies'?

Read: Matthew 5:44 "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Jesus says to His followers to pray for their enemies and those who wrong them. This promotes a spirit of forgiveness and compassion.

Read Luke 6:27-28 "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."

This passage reinforces the idea of responding to hatred with love, blessing, and prayer.

2. Praying for people around us

1 Timothy 2:1-2 "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."

We are encouraged to pray for all people, including those in leadership, so that society may experience peace and godliness.

James 5:16 "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

What does this verse say about the importance of praying for one another for healing and strength in the community.



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James says to confess our sins to each other. If we have people in the church community who we are at odds with, how can we do this wisely, and to whom do we confess our sins. At which point does this become gossip?

3. *Praying for healing for ourselves*

Read James 5:14-15 “Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.”

- We are invited to seek prayer when we are ill, trusting that God will bring healing.
- What happens if we aren’t healed immediately?
- How does healing glorify God?
- How can going through a difficult time, glorify God?

Read Psalm 30:2 “Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.”

This verse shows that God is a healer who responds when we call upon Him for help in our times of physical or emotional sickness.

How does praying for people who hurt us, help?

These verses reflect the biblical emphasis on praying for others, including our enemies, and seeking God's healing power for ourselves and those around us. When we pray for others, we are healed from hurt over time. The other person carries responsibility where there is. Repentance of our very important part of the healing process, and in our spiritual growth.

Close the time in prayer