

Taking It Home:

- Steve shared a great story on Sunday about a prayer group who prayed for years to see one of the husbands come to know Christ. Who are you praying for to come to know Jesus as savior?

- Do you regularly pray with your spouse or a friend? Who is someone that you could pray with on a weekly or monthly basis to encourage you to regularly go to God?

- Steve challenged us to continue to grow in righteousness. What signs of change can be observed in your development of righteousness?

A Call to Action

By God's grace and as a choice of my own will, I will begin a change in my habits, routines, or activities THIS WEEK (June 23 to 29, 2013), as a new demonstration to become "a righteous person, earnest in prayer" (James 5:16b).

Beginning _____, I will _____.

I want to make this change as an indication of my obedience and faith. May God receive and honor this change in my life as an act of worship (Romans 12:1-2).

Signed

Date

Witness (to encourage and help me)

Praying with Effect
James 5:16b

Dr. Steve Torgerson
Bethel Church
June 23, 2013

Praying with Effect

Notes:

For more information about Growth Groups, Growth Group homework, and a podcast of sermons with homework, visit www.bethelhc.com.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of June 23, 2013

James 5:16b

Quick Review: This week we were challenged to grow in our practice of prayer. We learned how a righteous person's fervent prayers open the door to God's power. Steve shared a number of great stories where prayer is working in the lives of people around the globe. Key ingredients for effective prayer include earnestness of the one praying coupled with righteousness before God. Tremendous power is made available through a righteous person's earnest prayer (James 5:16b).

My Story:

- Think of a time when God answered a specific prayer request in your life. What did that experience teach you?

- Who do you look up to when it comes to modeling prayer? What is it about them that stands out to you?

- How often do you go to God in prayer? What kind of things do you regularly ask for?

Growing Deeper:

- The most basic definition of prayer is simply asking. What do you notice about the importance of prayer in 1 Timothy 2:1-7 and Luke 18:1-8?

- Jesus modeled prayer for His disciples in Matthew 6:9-13. Based on this text, why did James say the "righteous" person's prayers would result in power? What makes a person righteous according to James 2:23?

- Sometimes our prayers are hindered by the condition of our heart. List from each of these verses one of the things that can hinder prayer:
 - Psalm 66:18

 - Mark 11:25

 - James 4:3