



A FRESH LOOK

NEW TESTAMENT

CONCEPTS OF

WORSHIP AND

ASSEMBLY

WORSHIP IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Where is the temple in the New Testament? **We are the temple.**
- Why is the body (both us individually and the collective church) the temple? **The Holy Spirits dwells in us.**
- Who are the priests that offer the sacrifices? **We are the priests.**
- What are the sacrifices? **The way you live and good deeds.**
- When is the worship performed? **All the time.**
- What does it mean to worship in the Spirit and in Truth?
- **Jesus said the change was to be from:
Physical Symbolism to Spiritual Reality**



Romans 12:1

Passage	Terminology	"Worship"?	Direction	Liturgy?
Mt 18:17-20	Gathering (synagō), Assembly (ekklēsia)	No	Horizontal	No
Acts 2:42-47	Together (epi to auto)	No	Both	No
Acts 4:23-35	Gathering (synagō)	No	Both	No
Acts 11:21-30	Gathering (synagō)	No	Horizontal	No
Acts 12:12-17	Gathering (synathroizō)	No	Mostly vertical	No
Acts 13:1-4	None	leitourgeō (ministering)	Both	No
Acts 14:21-28	Gathering (synagō)	No	Mostly horizontal	No
Acts 15:4-29	Gathering (synagō)	No	Horizontal	No
Acts 15:30-35	Gathering (synagō)	No	Mostly horizontal	No
Acts 20:6-12	Gathering (synagō)	No	Horizontal	No
1 Cor 11:17-34	Coming together (synerchomai), Assembly (ekklēsia)	No	Both	Possibly in the Lord's Supper
1 Cor 14:1-40	Coming together (synerchomai), Assembly (ekklēsia)	proskuneō Prostrating by Outsider	Mostly horizontal	Possibly with the amen and thanksgiving
1 Tm 2:8-12	"In every place" (en panti topō)	theosebeia (godliness)	Both	No
1 Tm 4:11-16	None	No	Horizontal	No
Heb 10:23-25	Assembling (episynagōgē)	No	Horizontal	No
Jas 2:2-4	Assembly (synagōgē)	No	Neither	No

SUMMARY OF ASSEMBLY PASSAGES

WHY ASSEMBLE TOGETHER?

- Hebrews 10:24-25
 - Stir up one another to love and good works
 - Encourage one another
- I Corinthians 14:26
 - Building up one another (edification)
- 1 Thessalonians 5:11
 - Encourage one another and build one another up



SPUR ONE ANOTHER ON TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS
HEBREWS 10:24-25

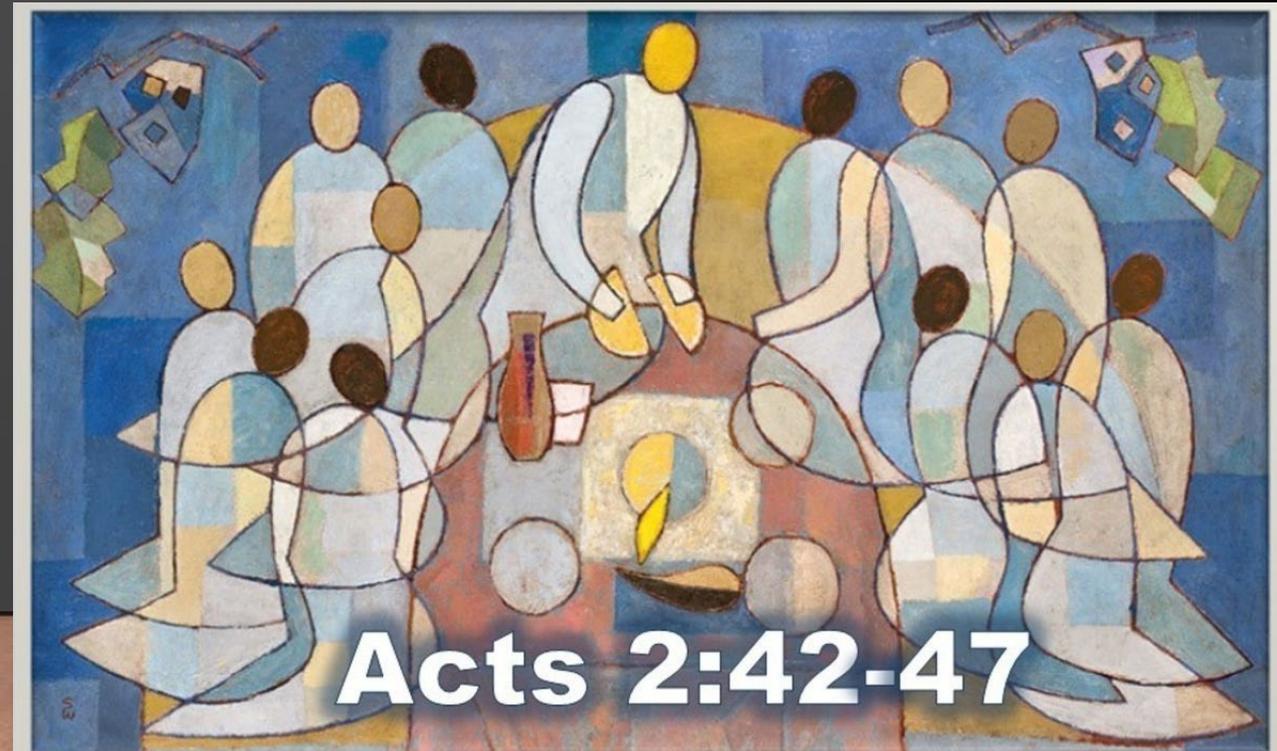
Spur one another on to love and good works.
We must spur one another on to love and good works.
Not forsaking the assembly,
But encouraging one another,
We will spur one another on to love and good works.

WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO GET RIGHT IN THE ASSEMBLY?



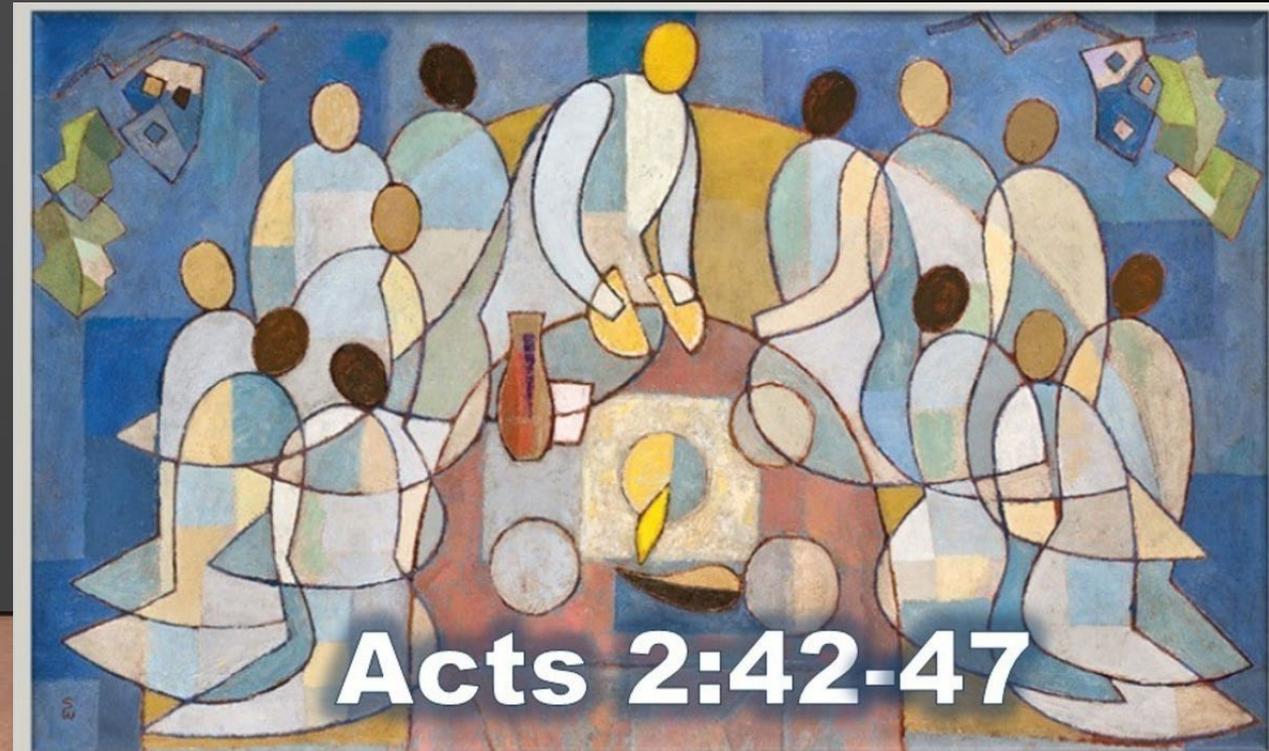
WHAT DID THE EARLY CHURCH DO WHEN THEY ASSEMBLED?

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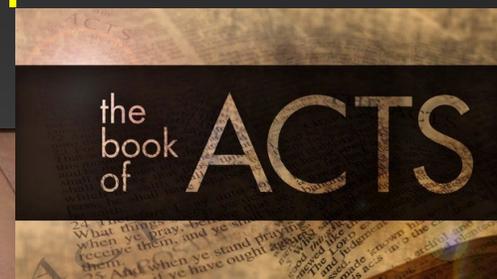


ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- Acts 1:15-16; 23-25

In those days Peter stood up **among the brothers** (the company of persons was in all **about 120**) and said, “Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus...

And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. And they **prayed** and said, “**You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.**”



ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- Acts 4:23-31

²³ When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ And when they heard it, they **lifted their voices together** to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

“**Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?**

²⁶ **The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers were gathered together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed’**



ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- Acts 4:23-31

²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and **grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,** ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.**

A PRAYER FOR BOLDNESS

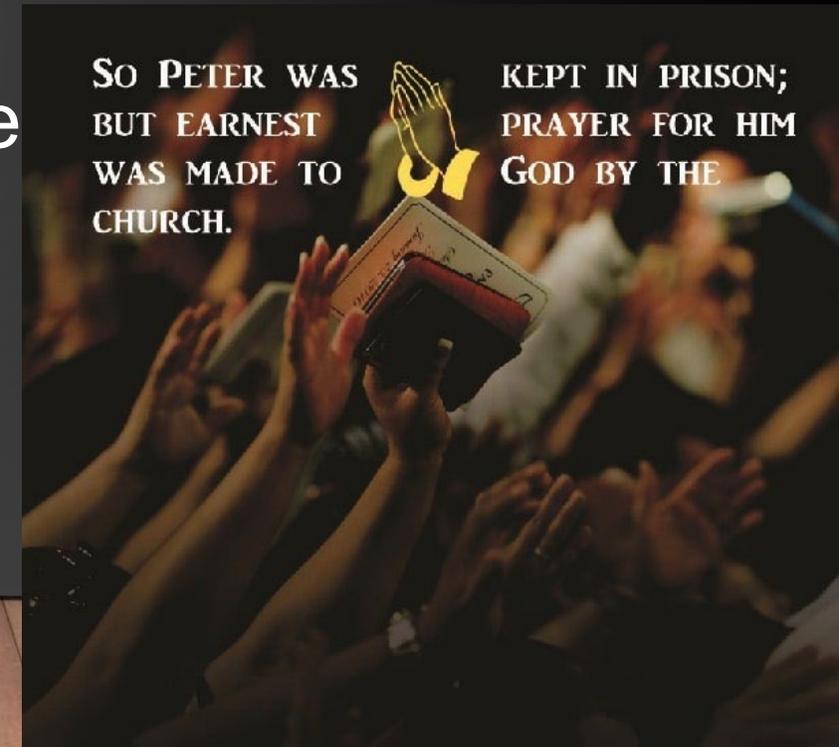
ACTS 4:23-31

ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- Acts 12:4-5, 12

⁴ And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. ⁵ So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church...

¹² When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together (*synathoizo*) and were praying.

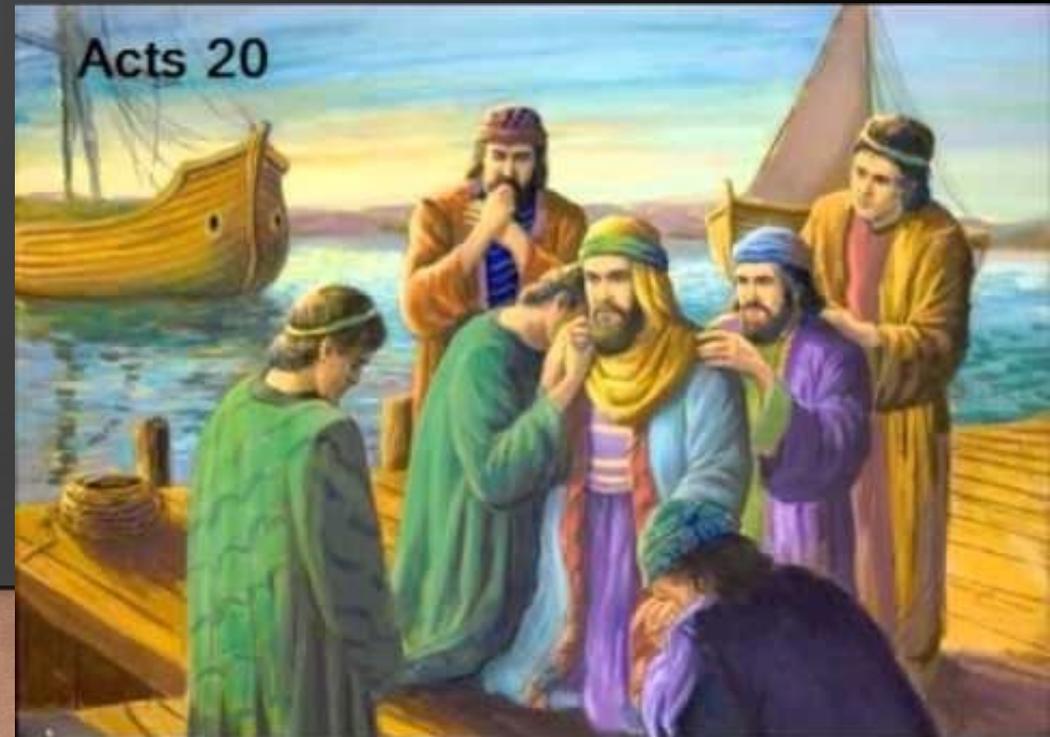


ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- Acts 20:33, 36

³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified...

³⁶ And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.



ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- Romans 15:30-33

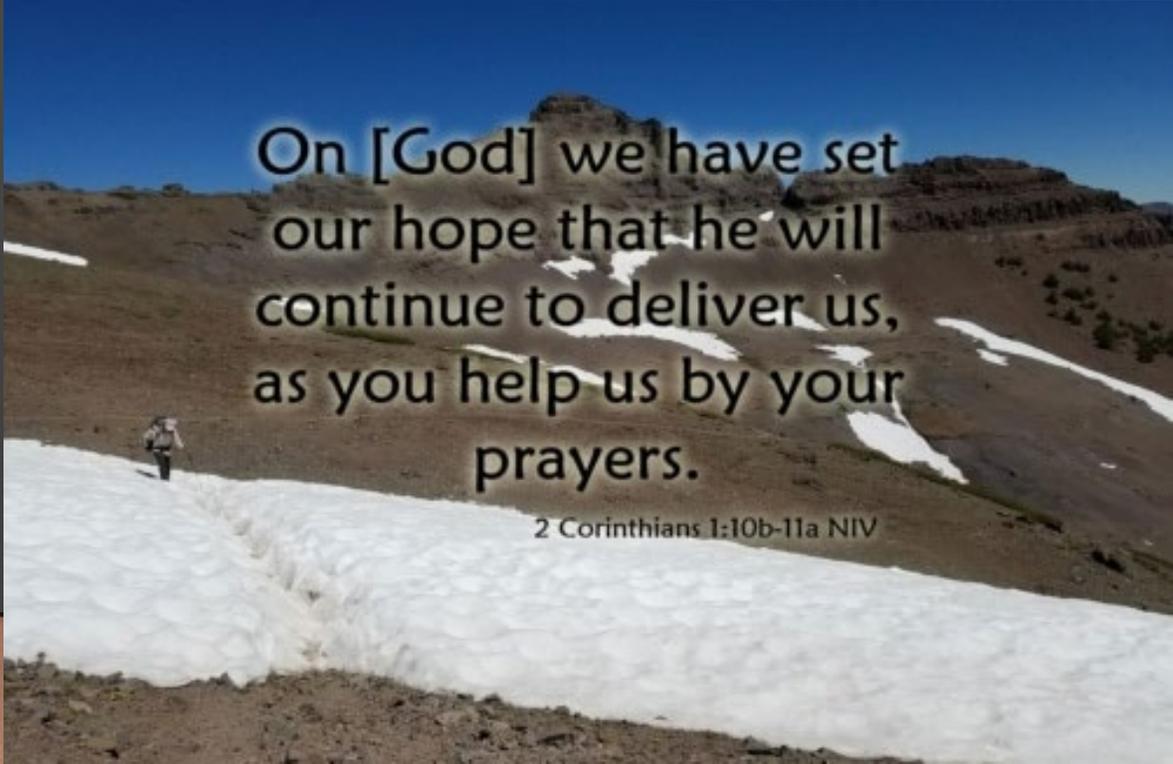
³⁰ I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to **strive together with me in your prayers** to God **on my behalf**, ³¹ that I may be **delivered** from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my **service** for Jerusalem may be **acceptable** to the saints, ³² so that by God's will **I may come to you** with joy and be refreshed in your company. ³³ **May the God of peace be with you all.** Amen.



ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- 2 Cor. 1:10-11

¹⁰ He **delivered** us from such a deadly peril, and he will **deliver** us. On him we have set our hope that he will **deliver** us again. ¹¹ You also must **help us by prayer**, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us **through the prayers of many**.

A photograph of a mountain landscape with snow patches and a hiker, overlaid with a Bible verse. The text is centered on the image.

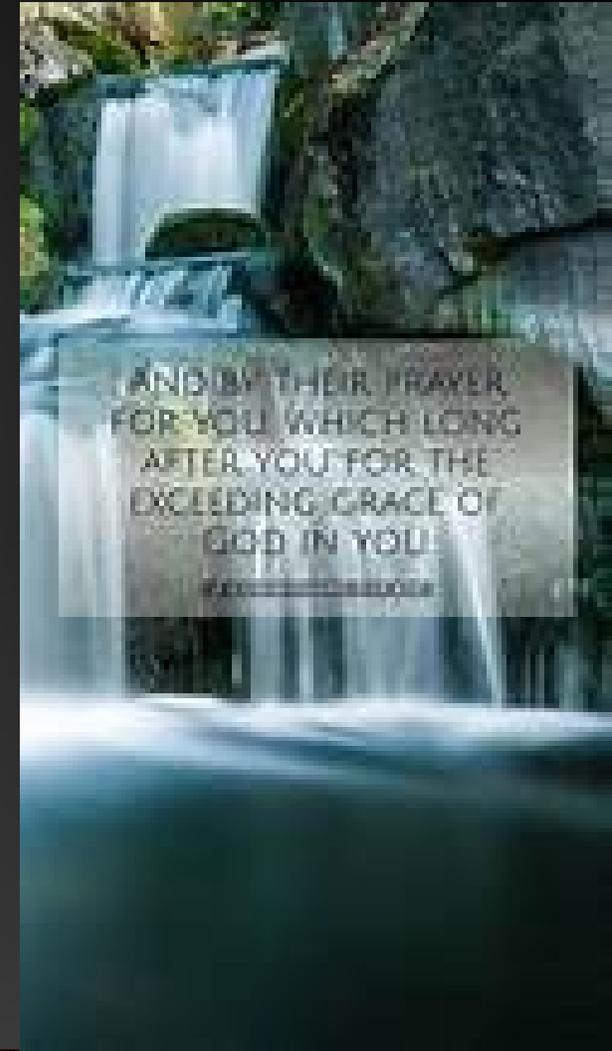
On [God] we have set
our hope that he will
continue to deliver us,
as you help us by your
prayers.

2 Corinthians 1:10b-11a NIV

ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- 2 Cor. 9:13-14

¹³ By their approval of this service, **they will glorify God** because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the **generosity of your contribution** for them and for all others, ¹⁴ while **they long for you and pray for you**, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!



ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- 1 Tim. 2:1-2

First of all, then, I urge that **supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings** be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in **high positions**, that we may lead a **peaceful and quiet life**, godly and dignified in every way.



ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- Col. 4:2-4

² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— ⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.



PRAY

God will
open a
door for
the Word

COLOSSIANS 4:3

ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- 2 Thess. 3:1-2

Finally, brothers, **pray for us**, that **the word** of the Lord **may speed ahead and be honored**, as happened among you, ² and that we may be **delivered** from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith.

PRAY FOR US THAT THE MESSAGE OF THE LORD MAY
SPREAD
RAPIDLY AND BE HONORED, JUST AS IT WAS WITH YOU.
2 THESSALONIANS 3:1

ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- Hebrews 13:18-19

¹⁸ **Pray for us**, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. ¹⁹ I urge you the more earnestly to **do this in order that I may be restored to you** the sooner.

**I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO DO THIS, THAT
I MAY BE RESTORED TO YOU SOONER.**



Hebrews 13:19

ASSEMBLY PRAYERS – WHAT DID THEY PRAY FOR?

- James 5:16

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and **pray for one another**, that you may be **healed**. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.



Confess your faults
one to another,
and pray one for another,
that ye may be healed.
The effectual fervent prayer
of a righteous man
availeth much.
James 5:16 KJV