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THE MINISTRY OF POWERFUL PRAYER Text: James 5:13-18; Acts 2:42; Various

POWERFUL, EFFECTIVE

13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 14 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. 15 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. 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.

17 Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. 18 Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

-JAMES 5:13-18

2

PRAYING TOGETHER INVITES GOD TO WORK IN US, AMONG US, THROUGH US.

- Solomon invited God's presence to fill the temple... and God showed up! (2 Ch 6-7; I Kings 8)
- There is a different atmosphere when God shows up!
- The church at Antioch saw this in their worship (Acts 13:2-3). They heard the HS!
- We need a prayer ministry that invites God work with us.

PRAYING TOGETHER INCREASES THE FAITH OF A CONGREGATION

- "If you can" kind of faith (Mt 17:14-21; Mk 9:14-29 Lk 9:37-43)
- Before the miracle this man was desperate but doubtful... "Help my unbelief"
- Answered prayer really helps us cast off doubt and grow in faith. One of the most

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- honest prayers we can pray is "Lord, Help my unbelief."
- Answered prayer does great things for the church.
- We need a prayer ministry that allows our faith to grow.

3

PRAYING TOGETHER MOVES US TO DESIRE GOD'S WILL AND PURPOSE

- Most people's prayers seek the best fix for a situation. Some pray like a Santa's Wish List.
- Something powerful happens when we start to let go of our desires and start to open themselves up to what God wants. (IL- Bad Marriage).
- Prayer is a closet filled with opportunity when we look at God's will instead of our own!
- Jesus knew this very well,"For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me."
- We need a prayer ministry that desire God's will to be done here.

POWERFUL, EFFECTIVE PRAYER BEGINS WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS

- It is time for us to have a ministry team of powerful and effective prayer.
- I have been asking God for a while now for a prayer ministry team here.
- A team which will guide the church in areas of prayer.
- Beaver Creek Christian Church has always been a praying church but it's time to take it to the next level.
- We are looking for a few righteous people to begin this new work.
- INVITATION