Faith that Works: Living Out of Your Beliefs
Prayer that Prevails: Power of Righteous Person

These are the questions we need to be asking ourselves about our prayer to make sure how effective our prayer life is to our lives and God's kingdom in heaven. I want to say it is good to be back in Michigan and Detroit.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for this day and being our provider and protector on earth.

Guide us while we live under God's grace.

I pray that God will go where he left off and continue to use me in Detroit while I may my transition back to Detroit because I will not be returning to Kentucky any more in the future.

Thank you for not living in Bondage and temptation.

Thank you for the food we eat on a daily basis to avoid hunger and food insecurity.

Thank you for guiding us from mammon and greed to make our life all about money.

Guard our hearts and minds while we live under your grace.

Guard our hearts and minds from sins, idolatry, abomination and temptation.

I pray that those people are envious and jealous of people that have more accomplishments and goals to achieve in their life.

Guide and give those people hope to set goals for their life and stop hating and being envious towards others.

In Jesus name, Amen

- 1. What personal experiences have you had with prayer and how those experiences shaped your understanding of its power?
- 2. What are some common obstacles or challenges that you face in your prayer life, and how do you overcome them?
- 3. How do we support and encourage one another in our prayer life and what steps can we take to do so?
- 4. How do we pray more effectively for our community, our nation and the world?
- 5. What specific prayer requests do you have, and how can we pray for you this week?
- 6. Am I living in a way that is pleasing to God, and are there any areas in my life where I need to seek forgiveness and change?
- 7. What are the desires of my heart and how do they align with God's will and purposes?
- 8. Am I approaching this prayer with humility and genuine desire to see God's will to be done?
- 9. What specific steps can I take to better understand and follow God's guidance in this situation?
- 10. Are there any hidden obstacles or challenges that I need to be aware of as I pray for this matter?
- 11. Who are the individuals or groups that I should be lifting up in prayer and what are the specific needs?
- 12. How can I pray in a way that brings hope, healing and restoration to those who are suffering?
- 13. What are the potential consequences of different outcomes in this situation, and how can I pray for the best possible result?
- 14. Am I being led to pray for a specific outcome or am I being called to simply trust in God's wisdom and timing?

Prayer can reduce stress, promote feelings of well-being and foster a sense of community. It is better for us to find a quiet space to pray and set a specific time. I do not set a time for prayer for myself because I just pray out loud and in my mind during the day to keep my mindset on God daily. Integrate prayer in your daily routine even if it is just for a few minutes. You can use commute time or breaks for quick prayers. We need to be honest in our prayers and express our doubts and feelings, and ask for guidance. I am honest in my prayers to God as a man of God and Bishop of this flock. We need to remember prayer is conversation with God in heaven at the throne, not a performance. Trust that God hears you, even if you do not see immediate results. With my strong faith in God, I get results from the kingdom right away or sometimes I have to wait patiently for God to come through for me daily. We can try different methods of prayer, such as journaling, meditating and scripture. I pray to God by scripture and calling on God to help me in bad and tough times when I may need him to help me with something. I do not get nothing from the world and society. God is my source, not the world. God needs to be our source, not the world. We need to be doing everything in our life by heavenly and Godly wisdom, not earthly wisdom. As a christian and disciple, you can start with small and short prayers as a beginner in Christ. We need to allow ourselves to be vulnerable in prayer. We need to say no to non-essential commitments. As Christians and disciples, we can share our prayer requests with family and friends, pray together, remind each other the importance of prayer and share stories of answered prayers. That's I give long testimonies and and talk more about myself in my sermons to explain how God has helped me in my life during trials and tribulations. When we pray for one another, we need to check in with each other daily about your prayer goals and offer support when people are struggling. We need to avoid judgement and offer grace in my prayers and prayer life. If someone is struggling to find time to pray, offer help with tasks or responsibilities. We need to acknowledge and celebrate our answered prayers because it means it is a breakthrough from God and the Holy Spirit. During our prayer life to remain effective and pray for our communities and society, we need to stay informed with current events to understand needs and challenges in the world. It means we do not need to hate on President Trump, we need to provide him an open mind and chance to lead as commander in chief. We do not need to like the Democrats to attack Trump and Republicans daily on policies, character and legislation. As christians and disciples, we need to pray specifically to God, seek God's guidance, pray with compassion, do not be afraid to ask for God for big things and believe he can make a difference, pray persistently, partner with others, pray for leaders, peace, revival and justice; and pray for the church. During our prayer life, we need to examine our actions, reflect on our thoughts and thought patterns, evaluate our relationships, be willing to seek feedback on our prayers about our character and behavior, read the bible regularly and reflect on God's teachings. We need to start using the bible as a guide in our life and how we can live our life with heavenly and Godly wisdom. We need to start turning away from earthly wisdom starting now to avoid sin, bondage, abomination, temptation and idolatry in our life. We need to listen to our conscience by depending on heavenly and Godly wisdom. We need to admit as individuals that we are wrong and take steps to make amends. We need to pray for self-reflection in our daily life. We need to focus on growth during our spiritual journey with heavenly and Godly wisdom in our life, not dependent on earthly wisdom. What we need to do in our prayer life is examine our motives, practice submission, seek God's perspective, confess our weaknesses, listen to God's voice, and be open to correction, trust God's wisdom, pray for others, study scripture and be thankful. We need to trust in God's time and be patient with him and the Holy Spirit. We do not need to give up if we have challenges and setbacks. We need to acknowledge our dependence on God and his grace with Godly and heavenly wisdom, not earthly wisdom. We must be willing to submit to his will no matter what. When we pray for people that are struggling, we need to put ourselves in their shoes and feel their pain, trust God can heal and restore

mention their names and specific needs, ask God to ease their pain and bring peace, ask God to give them strength to endure, ask God to fill them with hope in the future, ask God to send people help and support them, thank God for his blessings and faithfulness.

"Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 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. 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."-James 5:13-18

If any of you are struggling, you need to pray about it and be dependent on God for his wisdom. We do not need to depend on earthly wisdom when we struggle in our life. We need to try to depend on Godly and heavenly wisdom to avoid any pain in our life. Prayer is presented as a direct response to hardship. If you are cheerful, you should be singing songs of praise. I do this because when God praises me in my prayer life I listen and sing songs of praise. I gave up listening to rap and hip-hop after I was saved and born again on September 4, 2011. If you are sick, you should call the elders of the church to pray over it along with friends and family. Joy needs to be expressed during our worshipping God as our personal savior and rock of our salvation. Elders of the church will anoint you. If you are interested in becoming an elder of this flock, you can let me know because this congregation needs more elders. We need to continue to confess our sins to each other and pray for each other daily. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being that prayed that it would not rain and it did not rain. James was speaking to an early Christian community known as the Jewish Christians about the Christian community that is suffering, cheerful or sick. James was talking about the importance of prayer in the scripture in various circumstances and the role of the church elders in healing, the power of confession, and the effectiveness of righteous prayer using Elijah as an example. James in the scripture wants to encourage believers to turn to prayer in all circumstances to seek healing and restoration through the church community and emphasize the power of prayer in obtaining God's intervention. Ways to apply James 5:13-18 to our life is providing consistent prayer for all situations, seeking support from your faith community when needed, confessing your sins to one another, and trust in the power of prayer for healing and restoration.

James tells us that the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Now, I don't know about you, I feel like my prayers are about as effective as trying to start a lawnmower that has been sitting in the shed all winter. You pull the cord and nothing happens. You pull it again and you get a little sputter, but it quickly dies. And you keep pulling, thinking this time it is going to work! Only be met with silence. Sometimes our prayers feel like that, don't they? We pray for healing and illness lingers. We pray for guidance and the path ahead remains foggy. We pray for strength and still feel weak. But James reminds us that Elijah was a man just like us. And yet his prayers shut the heavens for three and half years! Now, I don't know about you, but if I tried that, I would probably end up with an angry homeowners association. The point is, Elijah's power was not his own righteousness, but in his reliance on God. And when we approach God with humility, confess our sins, and pray for persistence, we tap into the same power. So, let's not be afraid to pray boldly even if our prayers sometimes feel like sputtering lawnmower. Because with God, even the smallest spark of faith can ignite a mighty flame.

It is helpful to go to a quiet space and time for prayer. The bible reminds us in Matthew 6:6 to go into an inner room and prayer is secret. Prayer is recommended or even required in diverse circumstances.