

WHY PRAYERS ARE NOT EFFECTIVE.

Key scripture: James 5:16-18

The Bible is filled with promises, encouragements and illustrations which emphasize the secret of effective prayer. It is said that James had knees that were worn down by his constant habit of kneeling. If so, we have the testimony of a man who had proved the secret of effective prayer in his life and practised what he preached. But notice the statement he makes in verse 16: *“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective”* - in other words, it gets results.

It therefore means there are prayers that are not effective. The reason this prayer is ineffective and useless is because God does not hear it - look up and compare Job 27:8-9; Job 35:13; Isaiah 1:15-16;

What are the reasons why prayers are ineffective?

Discussion Points

- (1) Prayers with wrong motive. **James 4:3**
- (2) Harboring sin in our lives. **Psalm 66:18. Psalm 139:23-24**
- (3) An unforgiving spirit will hinder prayer. **Mark 11:25-26.**
- (4) Unwillingness to be reconciled to someone. **Matt 5:23-24**
- (5) What do you think can hinder your prayers?