

TRANSFORMING LIVES TODAY

Biblical Study Guide & Downloadable Resource

Website: transforminglives.today | Target Audience: Suitable for all ages, seekers, and growth-minded believers

1. PRAISES

Scriptural worship focuses on the offering of our lips and the devotion of our hearts. In accordance with the New Testament pattern, Christian praise is conducted through non-instrumental (*a cappella*) vocal singing.

"Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord..."

— Ephesians 5:19

"And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives."

— Matthew 26:30

"Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.'"

— Luke 11:1

- **Communication & Edification:** Singing serves a dual purpose—praising God directly while instructing, speaking to, and encouraging one another in the faith.
- **The Apostolic Example:** Following the Passover supper, Jesus and His disciples engaged in vocal song together without instrumental accompaniment.
- **Teach Us to Pray:** Prayer aligns our hearts with God's perfect will, allowing us to express deep gratitude, seek daily forgiveness, and offer praises from the heart.

2. OIL AND ANOINTING

Understanding the biblical distinction between Old Testament sacred consecration, everyday medicinal care, and elder prayer for the sick is key to applying Scripture properly.

"Moreover the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 'Also take for yourself quality spices... and you shall make from these a holy anointing oil...' With it you shall anoint the tabernacle of meeting..."

— Exodus 30:22–27

"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up."

— James 5:13–16

Is the oil in James 5 medicinal or anointing oil?

In ancient Near Eastern culture, olive oil was the standard medicinal agent applied to soothe wounds and physical ailments (as highlighted in the parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:34). While Exodus 30 outlines a sacred formula exclusively reserved for consecrating Old Testament priests and tabernacle furnishings, the application in James 5 combines practical medical care with spiritual devotion.

The Spiritual Core: Scripture clarifies that it is the *"prayer of faith"*—not the physical oil itself—that saves the sick. The oil offered physical and medicinal comfort, while the elders provided intercessory prayer and spiritual support.

3. HOLINESS

Spiritual growth requires turning away from worldly influences and maturing through biblical truth, correction, and personal purity.

"It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise than for a man to hear the song of fools."

— Ecclesiastes 7:5

"Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

— 2 Corinthians 7:1

- **Rebukes Bring Wisdom:** It is natural to prefer praise, but spiritual maturity requires humility. Receiving scriptural correction strengthens character and deepens our walk with God.
- **Purity of Flesh and Spirit:** Biblical holiness encompasses both our outward conduct (flesh) and our inward thoughts, motives, and desires (spirit).

4. WOMEN BIBLE STUDY / TEACHINGS / PREACHING

God desires peace, mutual respect, and clear spiritual order whenever believers gather in worship and teaching environments.

"For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says."

— 1 Corinthians 14:33–34

Understanding the Biblical Context:

- **Order in the Public Assembly:** 1 Corinthians 14 addresses maintaining proper order, decorum, and spiritual authority structures during formal, public church assemblies.
- **Private Study & Teaching Roles:** This passage does not prohibit women from studying, learning, or teaching God's Word in non-assembly settings. Scriptural history provides rich examples of women sharing

God's truth, such as Priscilla instructing Apollos (Acts 18:26) and mature women instructing younger believers (Titus 2:3–5).

Thank You for Reading!

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