take time **7 November** **James 5:7-20** read

http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James%205:7-20&version=NKJV

"Just be patient!"

study

Christians often suffer difficulties in the world, but they know that their Lord will come soon and reward their faithfulness.

Until then, you need patience and perseverance, just like a farmer waiting for the harvest (vv7-8).

The prophets and Job provide a valuable object lesson with regard to perseverance and patience. For example, patience is necessary if others don't want to believe your words. Don't try to put greater emphasis on your words with swearing, but simply always speak the truth (v12).

Personal and corporate prayer are very important: Prayer is mentioned seven times in verses 13-18.

But there are also situations where it is needful that something is "done": If someone wanders from the truth, he should be led back (vv19-20).

ans-wer

16. Is the sick person in verse 14 healed by being anointed with oil?
17. In order to encourage his readers to pray, James presents to his readers one person who prayed. Who is it, what did he pray for and which answers did he get?

think

Patience is rewarded. Pray in faith for others and help them.

note down

16. No, only by the prayer of faith (v15). To dig deeper: At the beginning of the Christian era, the gift of healing did exist, but this is not what James is talking about here. This special gift God had given as a sign to unbelievers. Here, it's all about a believer who is sick. The New Testament doesn't mention a single occasion when a believer was healed through the gift of healing. Anointing with oil was a customary Jewish treatment (see Mark 6:13, also Luke 10:34).
17. He talks about Elijah, who prayed for a dearth. It didn't rain for three and a half years. After that he prayed for rain, and God answered this prayer as well. – the prayer of a righteous man avails much, as long as it is in accord with God's will!