



# Jesus is Worthy

Of My Past, My Pain, and My Prayers

**Pastor Mark Lehmann**

“The criteria for coming to Jesus is weariness. Come overwhelmed with life. Come with your wandering mind. Come messy.”

— Paul Miller

16a Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

James 5:16a NIV

9 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: 10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

Luke 18:9-12 NIV

13 “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

Luke 18:13 NIV

14 “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Luke 18:14 NIV

“To confess your sins to God is not to tell God anything He doesn't already know. Until you confess them, however, they are the abyss between you. When you confess them, they become the bridge.”

— Frederick Buechner



16b The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

James 5:16b NIV

16b The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

James 5:16b MSG

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 5:17-18 NIV

“We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all.”

— Oswald Chambers

“History is silent about revivals that did not begin with prayer.”

— J. Edwin Orr

“By the light of day, we serve you who never slumbers, O God. Shaking off the darkness of sin and doubt, we clothe ourselves with your Holy Spirit. May we never grow weary in our ministry, fighting the powers and principalities that would lull us into the sleepiness of indifference. Equip your saints, Lord Jesus, for the battles ahead. Amen.”

— Moravian Daily Prayer