

James 5:14-15 – "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 offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him."

- b. What obligations can and should be carried out by local congregations?**
- (1) Are local congregations responsible to instruct in righteousness all persons who are part of the local body?**
 - (2) Are local congregations responsible to discipline all persons who are part of the local body?**
 - (3) Are local congregations responsible to care for and nurture the various age groups in the church, each with their special needs and problems?**
 - (4) Are local congregations responsible to care for and help those persons in the congregation who are having serious problems coping with certain aspects of life?**
 - (5) Are local congregations responsible to care for and support those widows in the congregation who are destitute?**
 - (6) Are local congregations responsible to care for and support the poor in the congregation?**
 - (7) Are local congregations responsible to care for and support those persons in the congregation who have temporary or occasional physical and/or financial needs?**
 - (8) Are local congregations responsible to maintain a Christian influence in and impact on the local community in the areas of ethics and morals, by means of public meetings, literature, radio, television, boycotts, picketing, etc.?**
 - (9) Are local congregations responsible to gather and disseminate information on the positions of candidates for political office on moral issues?**
- c. What obligations can and should be carried out by associations of local churches?**

Note: Many local churches do not have the resources to carry on certain ministries by themselves, but find that by associating together they can accomplish larger purposes for which they feel a burden and a responsibility.

- (1) Should churches associate to establish and maintain retirement homes, personal care facilities, nursing or convalescent homes, or custodial care facilities?**