

Personal Intercessory Prayer

Engaging in God-focused, Scripture-centered, promise-driven prayer

1. Intercessory Prayer: God is our model. As we love and follow Him, He grows us into His image. Isaiah 59. **Intercession = Intervention.** Righteousness, salvation, vengeance.

Spirit of God: Raises up a standard. God is a Redeemer. He makes covenant with those who turn from sin.

2. Key to Intercessory Prayer: God's Word. God will fulfill the promises in His Word! John 15:7

- **Relationship:** We can intercede because we are sons and heirs of God. *Romans 8:15-17*

- **God's will: In His Word** "Your word, LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens." *Psalm 119:89*

- **We pray according to the promises in God's Word.** *Ps 119: 1-2, 11, 89-90; 2 Tim 3:16, Heb 4:12*

- **"It is written..."** - Jesus proclaimed God's word when tempted in wilderness Luke 4:4, 8, 12

3. Key to Intercessory Prayer: God's Spirit. God reveals Himself through the Holy Spirit as we grow in Him.

a. **God acts on behalf of those who waits for Him.** 1 Corinthians 2:9a / Isaiah 64:4

b. **God reveals Himself through the Holy Spirit.** "Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit" Romans 8:16

4. Priority of Prayer: First of all, Pray all kinds of prayers for all people 1 Timothy 2:1-4

a. **Petitions:** Request with a deep sense of spiritual need, Specific needs directed toward God

b. **Prayers:** All types of prayers to God, general requests or specific petitions.

c. **Thanksgiving:** Gratitude for blessings or benefits, Praying with a thankful heart

d. **Intercessions: Intervention** led by God, **intersection between heaven and earth.** Prayer that "hits the mark", reflecting the Lord's specific will. Standing before God and between God and others, as a friend approaching a king with an intimate petition

5. Pictures of Intercession from God's Word

Loved by Jesus: Drawing near to Him and hearing what's on His heart. John 13:23-25

Praying with Jesus: With Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Matthew 26:36-38

6. Character Qualities of an Intercessor:

Humble and Contrite Psalm 51:17 Isaiah 66:1-2 Psalm 10:17 Psalm 37:11

Humility: A freedom from arrogance that grows out of the recognition that all we have and are comes from God. A humble person, then, focuses more on God and others than on himself.

Contrite: "The kind of spirit, or heart, pleasing and acceptable to God. (Ps. 34:18, Ps. 51:17). Person with a contrite spirit weeps over wrongdoing / expresses genuine sorrow for his sin." Vines Expository Dictionary

7. Hindrances to Prayer - Doing things man's way

Don't Pray Like:

- A hypocrite. To be seen by men Matthew. 6:5

- A pagan: Thinking we will be heard for much speaking. Matthew 6:7

Don't:

- Have unconfessed sin in our hearts. Psalm 66:18

- Fail to ask or ask with wrong motives, to consume it on our lusts. James 4:2-3

People who do not pray will always be disoriented to the activity of God – Pastor Mel Blackaby

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8. Intercessory Prayer: Impact of Praying People

Jesus	<p>Luke 3:21-22 Jesus’s Baptism: While He was praying, heaven opened.</p> <p>Luke 5:15-16 Slipped away to pray in wilderness even when multitudes were there.</p> <p>Luke 6:12-16 Prays all night before choosing disciples.</p> <p>Luke 22:39-46 Prays with disciples at Garden of Gethsemane.</p> <p>Luke 23:46 Prays on the cross, “Father in Thy hands I commit my spirit.”</p> <p>Luke 24:50 Blesses men on road to Emmaus.</p>
Paul	<p>Colossians 1:9-14... We have not ceased to pray that you would be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and under-standing, walk worthy of the Lord, to please {Him}... bearing fruit in every good work, increasing in knowledge of God; strengthened with all power according to His might</p> <p>Ephesians 1:15-23 ... I don’t cease giving thanks for you, praying for a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him... eyes of your heart enlightened, know hope of His calling, and riches of glory of His inheritance in the saints, and greatness of His power toward us who believe</p> <p>Ephesians 3:14-21 Ask that God would grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man; rooted and grounded in love, comprehend breadth and length and height and depth, know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, filled up to all the fulness of God.</p>
Elijah	<p>James. 5:16b-18: “The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. Elijah was a man like us. He prayed and it didn’t rain, then he prayed and it rained.</p>
Corinthians	<p>2 Corinthians 1:11: “And you are helping us by praying for us. Then many people will give thanks because God has graciously answered so many prayers... “</p>
Epaphras	<p>Colossians. 4:12: “Epaphras .. always prays earnestly for you, asking God to make you strong and perfect, fully confident that you are following the whole will of God.”</p>