

# Intercession

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Who can participate in this ministry? EVERYONE! Ages 6-96.

## What is Intercession?

Intercession is a ministry for **every** people of the Way. Acts 9:2.

Any age, any walk of life, any physical abilities.

A minister is, literally, a “servant”. In the Bible, the role of minister is not linked to licensing or being an “official” wielding some kind of authority. In Romans 15:16 Paul says that he was called to be “a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. [God] gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”

Following in Paul’s footsteps, any person who desires to serve God by “proclaiming the gospel so that . . . others might become sanctified by the Holy Spirit” is a Christian minister. Broadly speaking, being a servant of Christ makes one a Christian minister.

We are imitators of Christ. Ephesians 5.

## God has no special people for ministry, he has special ministries for His people.

All are called to ministry.

I am not talking today about personal prayer, supplications and sanctification for yourself;

I am talking about prayer for others and situations others find themselves in.

Oxford Dictionary: The action of intervening on behalf of another.

Merriam-Webster: To intervene between parties with a view to reconcile differences. Ponder that for a while.

## What intercession is

- It's not personal prayer
- It's not personal supplication
- It's not personal renewal
- It's a selfless prayer for others rather than yourself.
- Its God spirit flowing through you

Four general types of Intercession.

- Priestly
- Warrior
- Prophetic
- Watcher on the wall / Gatekeeper

Many intercessors overlap these types.

I will only be speaking of Priestly intercession here. More teaching on the other types of Intercession will come later. If interested see me.

### **Why is intercession hard?**

We are not called to easy.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

The enemy takes aim when we pray for one another. Luke 22:31, 1 Thessalonians 2:18 and Daniel Chapter 10.

Not many are willing to take up intercession; it's hard. It takes time and patience; it requires self sacrifice. Psalm Chapter 141.

We tire easily and can be emotionally overdrawn - Luke 22:45

Fear.

Ignorance of the Word. - Genesis 28:12-13

Persecution 2 Timothy 3:12

Most of it is done in secret.

### **What is Priestly Intercession?**

Let the priests, the Lord's ministers, Weep between the porch and the altar, And let them say, Spare Your people, Lord, And do not make Your inheritance a disgrace, With the nations jeering at them. Why should those among the peoples say, 'Where is their God?'" - Joel 2:17

This excellently sums up Priestly Intercession.

Standing in between a person and God (the porch of the Second Temple and the altar) with the enemy of our soul in opposition.

### **We are family, God's family.**

- Genesis 1:27 - God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

- Matthew 22:36-40 - "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Upon these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets."

- 1 John 3:1-2 - See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

As family members we are to care for one another. We may not always agree with a brother, or a cousin but we are to care for them.

### **Man is not an island**

Man was never intended to walk through this life alone.

Genesis 2:18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him."

### **God desires unity**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, <sup>3</sup> being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one

Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. Ephesians 4:1-6

### **We have an obligation for intercessory prayer.**

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus 1 Timothy 2:1-5

### **In between (Standing in the gap)**

Isaiah 53:12 Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the plunder with the strong, Because He poured out His life unto death, And was counted with wrongdoers; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many and interceded for the wrongdoers.

Christ is our example and we are His imitators (Ephesians 5)

A great example of standing in between or interceding on behalf of others can be found in Genesis Chapter 18 with Abraham interceding on behalf of his nephew Lot and the City of Sodom.

There is strength in a threefold cord (The Intercessor, The person in-between and God).

Ecclesiastes 4:12 And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart.

Priestly intercession - One who pleads our case before Heaven like a lawyer.

Jesus our great high priest (order of Melchizedek – Hebrews 7 / Psalm 110)

Jesus is our example of priestly intercession.

Isaiah 59:16 - And He saw that there was no man, And was astonished that there was no one to intercede; Then His own arm brought salvation to Him, And His righteousness upheld Him.

Priests are like a lawyer pleading our case before a judge.

Examples:

- Genesis 18
- Esther 7

- Daniel 9:3-19
- Numbers 14:11-25

## **The Kingdom of Heaven**

Pray, then, in this way:

'Our Father who is in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

<sup>10</sup> 'Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:9-10

The enemy came and convinced Adam to relinquish his control, but we are here to take it **back**.

God has made us a Kingdom of priests and as such has called us to rule by Intercession.

The world is not ruled by world leaders nor by satans kingdom but by the redeemed in intercession over the land.

Our prayers must be directed by the Holy Spirit or our prayers are not effective. Psalms 33:6

The Holy Spirit always aligns with The Word of God (Scripture). For this reason, we must read, understand and know the Scriptures.

## **Controlling and ruling the Spiritual climate**

Elijah had a nature like ours and Elijah had control over the rain for three and a half years. He was applying the truth of God's word. James 5:17-18

Kingdom of God goes where our feet go, our mouth proclaims the will of the Lord so that others will find safe passage from Jericho (curses) to the Promised Land.

It shall come about when the soles of the feet of the priests who carry the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan will be cut off, and the waters which are flowing down from above will stand in one heap."

<sup>14</sup> So when the people set out from their tents to cross the Jordan with the priests carrying the ark of the covenant before the people, <sup>15</sup> and when those who carried the ark came into the Jordan, and the feet of the priests carrying the ark were dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of harvest), <sup>16</sup> the waters which were flowing down from above stood and rose up in one heap, a great distance away at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those which were flowing down toward the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. So the people crossed opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup> And the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan

while all Israel crossed on dry ground, until all the nation had finished crossing the Jordan.  
Joshua 3:13-17

## **Praying God's Word**

The same power that flowed through the mouth of God to create the universe flows through our mouths.

<sup>6</sup> By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,  
And by the breath of His mouth all their host. Psalms 33:6

## **Corporate prayer**

It takes united corporate prayer to accomplish much.

<sup>1</sup> Now about that time Herod the king laid hands on some who belonged to the church in order to mistreat them. <sup>2</sup> And he had James the brother of John put to death with a sword. <sup>3</sup> When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. Now it was during the days of Unleavened Bread. <sup>4</sup> When he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out before the people. <sup>5</sup> So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God.

<sup>6</sup> On the very night when Herod was about to bring him forward, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards in front of the door were watching over the prison. <sup>7</sup> And behold, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter's side and woke him up, saying, "Get up quickly." And his chains fell off his hands. <sup>8</sup> And the angel said to him, "Gird yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he \*said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." <sup>9</sup> And he went out and continued to follow, and he did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. <sup>10</sup> When they had passed the first and second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, which opened for them by itself; and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel departed from him. <sup>11</sup> When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I know for sure that the Lord has sent forth His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting." <sup>12</sup> And when he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John who was also called Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. <sup>13</sup> When he knocked at the door of the gate, a servant-girl named Rhoda came to answer. <sup>14</sup> When she recognized Peter's voice, because of her joy she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter was standing in front of the gate. <sup>15</sup> They said to her, "You are out of your mind!" But she kept insisting that it was so. They kept saying, "It is his angel." <sup>16</sup> But Peter continued knocking; and when they had opened the door, they saw him and were amazed. <sup>17</sup> But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had led him out of the prison. And he said, "Report these things to James and the brethren." Then he left and went to another place. Acts 12:1-17

Much of intercession is in secret and alone but there are also powerful times to come together.

Acts 2:1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. Corporate prayer was the first public ministry of the Church!

Acts 4:31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."

Corporate prayer is a must! Long ago it was commonplace in the Church to have prayer meetings often late into night, this was not as fad or as phase but was and is required! It must return!

When a group of believers pray together, the result is unity, humility, thanksgiving, confession of sin, intercession, and discovery of God's will. When these come together God moves powerfully on our behalf.

In the book of Revelation the saints who have gone before are corporately petitioning the Father to avenge their blood (Rev. 6:9–11). The prayers of the saints are incense before the throne of God (8:1–4), to which God responds with judgment upon his enemies (8:5–13). The church responds to the Revelation of Jesus Christ with the corporate prayer, "Come!" (22:17).

A biblical theology of corporate prayer rests on the fact that God's people are called to submit their entire lives—which includes their words—to a covenantal mediator. Every sinful individual needs a man to speak on his or her behalf, whose words we can make our own—a man about whom we can say, "Yes, yes! He speaks for me. I couldn't say it, but he's saying it! O Great King in Heaven, listen *to him, for me.*" If redemption and the life of redemption hung on "my" prayers alone, what hope would any of us have? The prayer of a mediator to which a repenting people—God's people—can attach themselves is a clear provision of God's rich mercy. This makes the declaration that Christ Jesus is interceding for us at the right hand of the Father one of the most precious truths in all the Bible (Rom 8:34).

### **Corporate prayer amplifies our intercession**

For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst." Matthew 18:20

Luke 14:31 - Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to encounter the one coming against him with twenty thousand?

Leviticus 26:8 - five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand, and your enemies will fall before you by the sword.

### **Organize and come together**

It is not the job of the pastor to organize prayer meetings, it is the intercessor's job.

### **The Ministry of Holy Spirit**

All believers have two paracletes: the Spirit of God within us and the Son of God in heaven. First John 2:1 says, "If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." The Greek word translated "Advocate" is parakletos.

- Convict of sin
- Draw all men unto Jesus
- Bear fruit
- Sanctify us
- Regeneration and New Birth
- Bring understanding
- Bring gifts
- Increase our faith
- Teach us and guide us into the truth
- Confirm
- Empower – Acts 1:8
- Council
- Knowledge
- Reminds us
- Fear of the Lord
- Restrain evil

### **Ministry of Angels**

We can call upon them.

Hebrews 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

- Physical Protection (Genesis 19:11)



- Deliverance (Numbers 20:16, Acts 5:17-19)
- Executing, answering or actioning prayers (Daniel 9:20-27, Acts 12:1-11)
- Encouragement (Acts 27:23-25, Judges 6:11-12)
- Service to and glorifying God (Revelation 4:8, Luke 2:9-14)
- God's army (Bible refers to as Host of Heaven often – 1 Samuel 1:3; Psalm 24:10; Isaiah 22:14; Jeremiah 2:19; Amos 4:13; Haggai 2:9; Zechariah 8:6; and Malachi 2:16)
- Put down rebellion (Isaiah 24:21–23)
- Execute judgment or remove hindrances to the Gospel (Acts 12:23-24)

### **What are we interceding for?**

- Each other
- Pastors and leaders
- Those in authority over us. Ask God for a peaceful life with authority.
- Good and Godly government to facilitate evangelism without hindrance
- Growth of ministry - new believers
- Protection
- Vision of the church
- Revival and spiritual awakening
- Those who persecute you
- Town/City/County/State/Nations
- Justice
- Mercy
- Ask Pastor and leaders
- Ask Holy Spirit
- Divine intervention and deliverance
- Intercede for your friends/family/neighbor needs
- Ask God to help friends who suffer.
- Those who are sick
- For those committing sin
- For your enemies
- For blessings for those doing good
- That people would know God
- Unblind the eyes of those held captive by the enemy (Ephesians 4:18, 2 Corinthians 4:4)
- Ask someone

### **Prayer ministry**

Can be ministry at the altar, outreaches, visitations, hospital or convalescent visits, follow up to prayer requests in the church or just prayer on the street.

- Ask folks can I pray with you when they confess an issue or a need with you. (James 5:16, Romans 15:30-32)
- Pray for deliverance with folks ( 2 Thessalonians 3:1. ) - <https://www.cleansingstream.org>
- Prayer request Cards
- Prayer request texts
- Prayer request online (gloo.us)
- Prayer requests distributed to intercessors
- Follow up with those we have been praying for to see how they are doing and how God has helped them.
- Rejoice when God answers prayer! (John 16:23-24)

## **Prayer evangelism**

Lighthouses of prayer

What is a lighthouse of prayer? Based on Luke 10, a Lighthouse of Prayer does not talk to their neighbors about God (up front); rather they simply spend as little as five minutes a day in prayer for their neighbors. Walking your neighborhood or street praying. Adopting your neighborhood for your prayer concern. Getting to know your neighbors and their needs.

“Talk to God about your neighbors before you talk to your neighbors about God.” - Ed Silvano  
<https://www.amazon.com/Prayer-Evangelism-Spiritual-Climate-Neighborhood/dp/0830723978>

## **Preparation for interceding**

Joshua 3:5 Then Joshua said to the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do miracles among you.”

### **What hinders our intercession?**

Spiritual alignment

Spirit soul body

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are to be aligned with our spirit in the lead with the body in submission.

What does it mean to be in alignment with God? It is when our hearts are right with God, where our spirits, souls, and bodies work together in peace and harmony. We are three-part beings; spirit, soul, and body. When we are aligned with God, the spirit rules the soul and body. Our

spirits are born-again. Our minds are being renewed to God's Word. And our bodies are being trained to carry out the godly desires of our spirit and souls. As we are properly aligned with God, our lives will go as God planned.

The aligned person has a strong spirit, which is attained by feeding on God's Word and praying in the Holy Spirit. The soul is made up of the mind, will, and emotions. We can train our minds to think God's thoughts, which we find in His Word. When we are in alignment with God, our wills are not stubborn, but choose to God's will. And for the child of God who is in alignment with the Lord, the emotions are stable and at peace. Finally, because we walk in God's ways and not our own, our bodies are healthy and functioning properly, carrying out God's will on the earth. We are walking as Jesus walked- in alignment with the Father.

Sin pulls everything out of alignment. Our spirits will not be tuned into God, therefore we are not being led by the Holy Spirit operating through our spirits. Instead we will be led by the carnal mind and the flesh. This, in turn, leads to more misalignment. And that causes more pain in our lives.

When we are out of alignment it is hard to hear the Holy Spirit in our lives leading to a hindrance of intercession.

Not having on the armor of God which assumes we are already in proper spiritual alignment.  
Ephesians 6

Our flesh

And He \*came to the disciples and \*found them sleeping, and \*said to Peter, "So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? 41 Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:40-41

Regarding sin in our hearts (Iniquity)

<sup>8</sup> If I regard wickedness in my heart,

The Lord will not hear;

<sup>19</sup> But certainly God has heard;

He has given heed to the voice of my prayer.

<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God,

Who has not turned away my prayer

Nor His lovingkindness from me. Psalms 66:18-20

The truth is God will hear our requests when we are in sin else how would an unbeliever ask the Sinners Prayer. But rather it is us as illustrated by Psalm 66 we assume God cannot hear us because we have become separated from God. This means we are unable to properly hear from God. This limits our intercession.

Sin leads to a downward progression that, without the restoring power of the Holy Spirit, we all tend toward. The sin nature is present in every human being born since the Fall of Adam (Genesis 3:6–7; Romans 5:12). If left unchecked, continual sin leads to a “reprobate mind,” spoken of in Romans 1:28. Our sin nature causes us to gravitate naturally toward selfishness, envy, and pride, even when we are trying to do good.

The apostle Paul alluded to his propensity to sin when he wrote, “For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out” (Romans 7:18).

All this hinders even prevents intercession.

### **Forgiveness hinders our intercession**

Matthew 5:21-24 - “You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’ But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell. Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

1 Peter 4:7-9 - The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint.

### **Idolatry hinders our intercession**

Ezequiel 14: 5 that I may seize the house of Israel by their heart, because they are all estranged from Me by their idols.” ’

Idolatry is anything that comes between you and God.

### **What else hinders our intercession?**

- Lack of thanksgiving and praise! (Psalm 100:4)
- Fasting and humility (Joel 2:15-16, Isaiah 58:3-12)
- The enemy and spiritual warfare

- (Luke 22:31-32, Ephesians 6:12-13)
- Principalities and powers (Daniel 10:10-13)

## **Abiding in Christ**

<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. <sup>9</sup> Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full. John 15:1-11

Our fruit increases (intercession is one of these) when we abide and continue to abide in Christ.

## **Protections for yourself**

- Accountability (James 5:16)
- Prayer partners
- Keep accounts short with God
- Keep grounded in the Word (Ephesians 2:19—20)
- Renewing your mind daily.

## **Journaling, visions and dreams.**

Some have visions, dreams or a word (greek word in the Bible Rhema) comes them during intercession or preparation for intercession. Write these down! Keep a journal. Refer to the journal often. Many times revelation is progressive and visions build on previous visions or Words build on previous revelation. Some keep a notebook by their bed to write down lingering and intensive dreams that you believe come from the Lord. Share these with others to help confirm them as being from the Lord and conforms to Scripture.

Habakkuk 2:1-3

I will stand at my guard post  
 And station myself on the watchtower;  
 And I will keep watch to see what He will say to me,  
 And how I may reply when I am reprimanded.

Then the LORD answered me and said,  
“Write down the vision  
And inscribe it clearly on tablets,  
So that one who reads it may run.  
For the vision is yet for the appointed time;  
It hurries toward the goal and it will not fail.  
Though it delays, wait for it;  
For it will certainly come, it will not delay *long*.

### **Prophetic intercession**

There is a lot to unpack here and I don't have the space in this article to cover it all right now. A future teaching is coming on this. For now these basics:

Prophetic, war, birthing, watchmen, watcher on the wall and gatekeepers intercession. Spying out the land for intercession (Numbers 13) are other kinds of intercession.

Jesus will advance you when you are ready and faithful.

... From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more. Luke 12:48

Prophetic is a TEAM effort there is no single New Testament prophet! Examples of this in the Book of Acts.

<sup>27</sup> Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. <sup>28</sup> One of them named Agabus stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the reign of Claudius. <sup>29</sup> And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea. <sup>30</sup> And this they did, sending it in charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders. Acts 11:27-30

### **Some resources**

<https://seapc.org/attack-lambs-ecourse/>

<https://www.cwgministries.org/Four-Keys-to-Hearing-Gods-Voice>

<https://www.amazon.com/Prayer-Evangelism-Spiritual-Climate-Neighborhood/dp/0830723978>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIR9Htsnz8w>

<https://www.cleansingstream.org/events> (they are having a teaching in November at our Florida Church (see Kevin)

<https://awalledcity.com/> This article