

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER AND THE BELIEVER

God sets great store in intercessory prayer because down through the ages God has given us mighty men and women of prayer—forerunners of intercessory prayer and revivals. They are inspiring examples for us today, as they moved under the anointing and teaching of the Holy Spirit—imparting a wealth of wisdom, knowledge and understanding of God’s heart for us, The Body of Christ, to follow.

**Luke 18:1** “One day Jesus told his disciples a story to illustrate their need for constant prayer and to show them that they must never give up.” It is the story of the persistent widow appealing for justice.

**Andrew Murray**, the great South African pastor and missionary is an awesome warrior intercessor who shares the heart of God with his readers. The deeper Christian life can be yours and he can show you the way. Definite, determined prayer is what we need is Andrew Murray’s theme. He says, “*Where there is much prayer, there is much of the Spirit, and where there is mucho f the Spirit, there is ever increasing prayer!*”

Other great intercessors are: “Praying Hyde” (John Nelson Hyde), Smith Wigglesworth, Moody, Spurgeon, Rees Howell, Larry Lee, Watchman Nee, and Dr. Cho. I have gleaned much from their examples and teachings, and the list continues to grow.

**I Peter 4:7-8** - the fashioning of an intercessor, then, begins with a burden of LOVE! Intercession keeps bringing us back to Christ’s compassionate love in us and then flowing out of us to others. It is meant to be a continuous flow as we walk in right fellowship with God and strive for obedient living.

**Corrie Ten Boom**, beloved author of *The Hiding Place*, asks *Is prayer your spare tire or your steering wheel?* We would do well to take an inventory from time to time using this sentence as a gauge.

### INTERCESSION IS:

A hotline to God. We won’t receive a busy signal and we can talk as long as we want without charges.

The safe sanctuary where you can open our heart to God—*no holds barred*.

The foundation of every move of God.

A strong and unique type of prayer. It is our S.O.S. signal to God in times of crisis.

A challenge for it is wrapped in spiritual warfare. It stops the strategy of the enemy.

Similar to the role of an advocate or mediator; standing between God and another person.

A prayer to God for someone other than yourself; representing others to God and pleading their cause.

Growing spiritually as prayer begins to flow more easily and we become spiritually recharged.

Bringing about the setting apart of God’s people for useful service.

Taking place in the heavens. We must enter into the heavenly realm.

A particular duty to pray about those matters which God presents to us.

Learning to be persistence and praying through until the task is 'accomplished'.

Talking to God with a trusting heart; asking God for guidance and listening for God's voice.

To disciple ourselves to focus on other people and helps us to identify with their needs.

### **AN INTERCESSORS IS A PERSON WHO:**

Has a personal and living relationship with God.

Purposes to have a clean and pure heart before God.

Has learned the art of supplication (to ask earnestly and humbly; to be persistent).

Comes boldly before the throne of God to make requests, to urge, plead, beg, etc. for others.

Can walk with the favor to impact and change God's heart.

Has knowledge of spiritual warfare and is effective in its application.

Is willing to face a risk and make sacrifices for others with no thought of themselves.

Is called by God or chooses by nature to be an advocate or mediator on the behalf of others.

### **Examples:**

Moses -Exodus 32:32

Daniel Daniel 9:16

Esther Esther 4:16

David 1 Samuel 17:37

Jesus, who was willing to become sin and lay down His life for all mankind. (Isaiah 53:12)

There is a difference between a person who is called an intercessor and a person who prays. Not all people are called to be an intercessor, BUT all believers can pray.

When prayer becomes more than a form

When prayer becomes more than a necessity

When prayer becomes more than a responsibility

When prayer becomes more than a thing to do because it is time to do it,

When prayer becomes a delight for you, **THEN**

You will find that the Lord will move His hand in ways that you have not yet seen.

When you choose to make the Lord your delight, when you count it a pleasant thing to commune with the Lord, when you delight to seek His face in prayer **THEN** you shall see the handiwork of God.