

EVEN THE DOGS EAT THE CHILDREN'S' CRUMBS, PART 3: INTERCESSORY PRAYER MARK 7:24-30

Intercessory Prayer: Prayer that petitions God for the purpose of securing some type of blessing or mercy on behalf of another

Examples of significant intercessory prayer;

GENESIS 18:22-32

²³ Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ...

Exodus 33:12-23

¹² ...¹³ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." ...

-Defining characteristics of the woman's prevailing intercessory prayer-

An accurate and honest recognition of the need;

1 JOHN 1:8-9

⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 PETER 4:7

⁷ ... be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.

A sincere engagement of the heart;

1 Peter 3:7

⁷ Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel...so that your prayers may not be hindered.

ROMANS 10:1

¹ Brothers, *my heart's desire* and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.

A genuine identification with the one in need;

ROMANS 9:3

³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.

A resolute conviction that Christ can and will hear and act;

ROMANS 4:21

²¹ ...fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

PHILIPPIANS 4:19

¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

JAMES 1:6-7

⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

-The substance of the woman's prevailing intercessory prayer-

The prayer was bold and direct;

HEBREWS 4:16

¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The prayer was persistent;

LUKE 11:5-8

⁵ And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; ⁷ and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? ⁸ I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs."

LUKE 18:1-8

¹ And he told them a parable *to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.* ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³ And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵ *yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.*'" ⁶ And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷ And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸ I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily...

-For what should the Intercessor pray?-

The mandate of intercessory prayer;

1 SAMUEL 12:23

... far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you...

The smallness of our prayers, and the reasons our prayers tend to be small;

LUKE 12:32

"Fear not, little flock, for *it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom*.

-The central focus of the most prolific Pray-er in Scripture-

Greater, sharper, and more precise spiritual insight;

EPHESIANS 1:15-18

¹⁵ ...because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, *remembering you in my prayers*, ¹⁷ *that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him*, ¹⁸ *having the eyes of your hearts enlightened*, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints ...

EPHESIANS 3:16-19

¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory *he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being*, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

An increasing spiritual wisdom leading to a life of increasing holiness;

COLOSSIANS 1:9-10 (SEE ALSO PHILIPPIANS 1:9-11)

⁹ And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will *in all spiritual wisdom and understanding*, ¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Increasing and deepening love for one another;

PHILIPPIANS 1:9-11

⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

1 THESSALONIANS 3:11-13 (SEE ALSO ROMANS 15:5-6)

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹² and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The granting of spiritual fellowship;

1 THESSALONIANS 3:9-10

⁹ For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

ROMANS 1:9-10 (SEE ALSO ROMANS 15:30-33)

⁹ For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you ¹⁰ always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you.

That their lives would make Christ appear glorious to those who observed them;

2 THESSALONIANS 1:11-12

¹¹ To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, ¹² so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6, 11

⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ ...¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, *to the glory and praise of God.*

ROMANS 15:5-6

⁵ May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶ that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The prayer of thankfulness for the brethren: Paul's most-common prayer;

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3

³ We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.

EPHESIANS 1:15-16

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers,

PHILIPPIANS 1:3-5

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:4-7

⁴ *I give thanks to my God always for you* because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— ⁶ even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ…

ROMANS 1:8

⁸ First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world.

1 THESSALONIANS 1:2-3

² We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

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