

Intercession

“God’s giving is inseparably linked with our asking. Only by intercession can that power be brought down from heaven which will enable the church to conquer the world.” – Andrew Murray

“Prayer is striking the winning blow. Service is gathering up the results.” – S.D. Gordon

If we believed the above statements...really believed them...our prayer lives would dramatically change. There is a battle going on in the heavenlies that we cannot see, but it is as real as what is seen. To intercede in prayer is to go between, to stand in the gap on behalf of a person or the church. This is the least practiced of all the types of prayer because it takes us outside of our own lives, outside of our own needs, outside of our own hurts and struggles. This is asking God to move on behalf of others, to intercede in their lives.

Things happen in the unseen world when we pray. God begins to move, battles are fought, angels are dispatched, demons are disrupted and must flee, light comes into the darkness, lives are changed. Intercession takes us into the realm of kingdom shaping, asking Him to release His power and His will into a situation. By praying, you put the power of God at work. As Christians, we are called to intercede for our loved ones, for our pastors, for the Body of Christ, and for people who do not yet have a relationship with Jesus. There is a great need for Christians to intercede on behalf of others. It takes sacrifice. We must give up something we have so little of – time. But the rewards are tremendous – God’s name is made great, He is glorified, His kingdom is advanced, treasures are stored up for you in heaven, the sinners find grace, the weary are strengthened, the hungry are fed...eternity is shaped.

A friend of mine had gone to her prayer room to pray for her church’s needs. She also had some very heavy burdens of her own and a lot of things going on in her family. Her thoughts that day were to pray for a while for the church members’ needs and the pastors’ needs and then to pray for her own situation. She became so involved in praying for others...the needs were so great...that when she finished, it was late and she had to leave, not having time left to pray for her own needs. As she walked out of the prayer room a little saddened because she hadn’t had time to cover her own situation in prayer, she heard the Lord’s quiet voice say, “I know your needs and everything you wanted to pray about for your family and your situation. Because you were faithful to pray for my church tonight, I have heard the cry of your heart, your unspoken prayers.”

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