

“Prayer Warriors Needed”
Ezekiel 22:20

Ezekiel 22:30 30 “I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall of righteousness that guards the land. I searched for someone to stand in the gap in the wall so I wouldn’t have to destroy the land, but I found no one.

Isaiah 59:14-15 14 Our courts oppose the righteous, and justice is nowhere to be found. Truth stumbles in the streets, and honesty has been outlawed.

15 Yes, truth is gone, and anyone who renounces evil is attacked. The LORD looked and was displeased to find there was no justice.

16 He saw that *there was* no man, and he was amazed that *there was* no intercessor...

Psalms 106:21, 22 They forgot the God who saved them, who had done great things in Egypt, who had done miracles in Egypt and amazing things by the Red Sea.

23 So God said he would destroy them. But Moses, his chosen one, stood in the gap between the LORD and his people and stopped God’s anger from destroying them.

Big Idea – God is looking for intercessors/prayer warriors to do spiritual warfare for lost souls, for people’s lives, for the nations of the world.

Start today to debunk 5 myths about becoming an Intercessor.

Myth #1 – Intercession is only for those who have been a Christian for a long time (more than 2 yrs, 5 yrs or more.)

#1 - You can be a new believer and start praying for your family members to be saved. You are an intercessor.

Myth #2 – Intercession is only for those who can pray very well, and they can fast and pray for many days.

#2 – How long or how short the period is not criteria to determine whether you are an intercessor.

Myth #3 – Intercession is only for those who have a special access to God.

Myth #4 – Intercession is only for those who are very knowledgeable and have in depth biblical knowledge. Like pastors, evangelists or missionaries.

Myth #5 – Intercession is only for those who have a special calling from God to be Prayer Warriors.

For #3, #4 and #5 – Jesus teaches that every one of us have direct access to the Father. He says that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life, and we can come to the Father through Him. So, when we pray, we are praying using His name. All of us are called to pray to God.

1. What is intercession?

To “intercede” means to come in between. It is pleading for another person. Intercession is approaching God and asking Him to intervene in the life of another person. It is pleading with God for the needs of others. Intercession is taking hold of God's will and refusing to let go until it comes to pass.

It is a request to the Lord on behalf of a person or persons.

Intercession is talking to God about transgressors and praying that He'll save them from their sins.

It is plowing the grounds of the hearts of sinners so that when the Gospel is preached the seed of the Word is planted in their hearts. Truly, evangelism cannot be successful without an effective intercession.

2. Who were some intercessors/prayer warriors in the Bible?

Abraham – interceded to God for Lot's cities of Sodom & Gomorrah

Moses – hands held up by Aaron & Hur – he prayed while Joshua fought (Exodus 17:8-16;

Psalm 106:23 So God said he would destroy them. But Moses, his chosen one, stood in the gap between the LORD and his people and stopped God's anger from destroying them.

Exodus 32:31 So Moses went back to the LORD and said, "How terribly these people have sinned! They have made for themselves gods from gold.

32 Now, please forgive them of this sin. If you will not, then erase my name from the book in which you have written the names of your people."

Daniel – illustrates that praying is spiritual warfare (Daniel 10:12 – 14)

Jesus Christ – Hebrews 7:25

Holy Spirit – Romans 8:26 He brings our prayers to God. The Holy Spirit expresses to the Father our feelings much better than we could.

3. What are intercessors/prayer warriors?

Committed believers who pray daily, fervently (James 5:16)

Intercessors are gatekeepers - the human chain between God and sinners.

Intercessors are peacemakers – they stand between God and those who justly deserve His judgment; they plead for God's mercy not justice

Intercessors are bridges – they stand in the middle between God and the person(s) they are praying for.

Intercessors are men and women of discernment – they discern the need of others and turn it into prayer.

Intercessors are burden bearers – they bear others burden.

Intercessors are laborers. They labor daily for the release of God's power to win lost souls, revive the Church and impact societies.

4. Who can be a prayer warrior?

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, all believers are now called into the ministry of intercession. It is commanded in the Scripture.

Ephesians 6:18 Pray in the Spirit at all times with all kinds of prayers, asking for everything you need. To do this you must always be ready and never give up.

Always pray for all God's people.

19 Also pray for me that when I speak, God will give me words so that I can tell the secret of the Good News without fear.

20 I have been sent to preach this Good News, and I am doing that now, here in prison. Pray that when I preach the Good News I will speak without fear, as I should.

Luke 18:1 One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up (not lose hope).

1 Timothy 2:1 1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men,
2 Pray for rulers and for all who have authority so that we can have quiet and peaceful lives full of worship and respect for God.
3 This is good, and it pleases God our Savior,
4 who wants all people to be saved and to know the truth.
5 There is one God and one way human beings can reach God. That way is through Christ Jesus, who is himself human.

1 Timothy 2:7 This and this only has been my appointed work: getting this news to those who have never heard of God and explaining how it works by simple faith and plain truth.

8 Since prayer is at the bottom of all this, what I want mostly is for men to pray—not shaking angry fists at enemies but raising holy hands to God.

God knows the deep longings and needs in our hearts, and He desires to abundantly bless us, but we must partake in this important ministry. He's looking for those who will have a burden for lost sinners.

He is searching for those who will selflessly intercede on behalf of others. Just like Daniel, the enemy will do everything he can to stop and hinder you in prayer. But if we are faithful, God answers our prayer and makes a path for us right through the difficulties. Your prayers have no limitation. You can impact the destiny of many and entire nations. You can help save many lives.

Opening Illustration- Moody's Barroom Meeting

D.L. Moody once entered a tavern in order to ask the bartender if his two little girls might attend his Sunday School. He was told that an atheist club met there every Thursday night and the owner of the bar was in no mood to offend them. Moody looked into the face of this man and pleaded with him on behalf of his girls. Finally the man's heart was touched and he said, "Preacher, I'll tell you what I'll do. If you'll come down here Thursday night and meet with the boys in a joint discussion, and win, you shall have the children. But if not, its all off!"

“Agreed,” said Moody. Moody went right out and looked up a crippled newsboy who really knew how to pray and said to him, “Tommy, I need you next Thursday night!” When the hour of the meeting arrived, Tommy and the evangelist entered the saloon. It was full of men sitting on whiskey barrels, beer kegs, and even on the bar—eagerly awaiting the coming debate. Moody began by saying, “Gentlemen, its our custom to open our meeting with prayer. Tommy, jump up on that barrel and lead us in prayer.” Tommy began to beseech the Lord for the souls of all present. As the tears began to roll down the little fellow’s cheeks, the more tenderhearted of the men beat a retreat. Finally, even the hardest men present began to leave until there was no one left except the bartender, Moody and the praying boy. Moody turned to the father and said, “I claim your girls for my Sunday school!” The bartender answered, “All right, you win. But it’s a queer way to fight!” And Moody answered, “It’s the way I win many a battle.”

Queen Mary of Scotland, (known in History as ‘Bloody Mary’) once commented that she feared the Prayers of John Knox as much of the combined Armies of Scotland. That is a Powerful statement.

D. L. Moody who said to a man on one occasion, "Why don't you try doing so-and-so?" The man replied, "I've been aiming to do that for a long time." In his blunt way, Moody replied, "Well, brother, it's about time you quit aiming and started firing."