Advanced Intercession

“We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.”
Rm 8:26

Intercession
Scriptural Definition

1. To meet between 1Tm 2:1
2. To come or call upon, to meet Jer 7:16 27:18
3. To meet with, to come between Rm 8:27, 34 11:2
4. To meet with in behalf of one Rm 8:26
5. To stand in the gap Hb 7:25

Models of Intercessors
Scriptural

1. Abraham
   for Abimelech
   for Sodom and Gomorrah
2. Moses
   for the Israelites
3. Elijah
   for the widow of Zarepath
Divine Intercessor
Jesus in His Earthly Ministry

The greatest example of intercession is in the life of Jesus.

• “Simon, Simon, behold Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed that your own faith may not fail; and once you have turned back, you must strengthen your brothers.” (Lk 22:31-32)

Divine Intercessor
Jesus in His Heavenly Ministry

And Jesus continues to intercede at the right hand of the Father.

• But Jesus, because he remains forever, has a priesthood that does not pass away. Therefore, he is always able to save those who approach God through him, since he lives forever to make intercession for them. (Hb 7:22-27)

Spirit of Supplication
Continuing Ministry

“I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and petition.” Zec 12:10

But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the holy Spirit. Jd 20

We also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. Rm 8:23
**Spirit of Supplication**

**Continuing Ministry**

"With all prayer and supplication, pray at every opportunity in the Spirit. To that end, be watchful with all perseverance and supplication for all the holy ones." (Ep 6:18)

- The Spirit of supplication is the Spirit of intercession (Rm 8:26)
- He makes intercession for us just as “Christ makes intercessions for us.” (Rm 8:34)

**Spirit of Supplication**

**Continuing Ministry**

"Be filled with the Spirit." (Ep 5:18)

- It is the healthy spiritual life that can pray rightly.
- Some are content with the small measure of the Spirit's in-dwelling.
- It is God's will that we should be filled, even have a “double portion” (2Kgs 2:9) of the Spirit.

**Spirit of Supplication**

**Continuing Ministry**

"In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit." (Ep 1:13)

- The Spirit dwellsh within to enable us to pray in a manner pleasing to God.
- Do not grieve the Spirit (Ep 4:30) by unbelief, strife, selfishness, unfaithfulness to his voice.
Spirit of Supplication
Continuing Ministry

• Reject any sin that rises against our will such as sloth, pride, envy, gluttony, anger, or any other passions of the flesh.

• Our bodies as temples of the holy Spirit (1Cor 6:19) are not to be defiled.

Spirit of Supplication
Continuing Ministry

• Being filled with the Spirit means our whole being be entirely yielded to him.

• We are to be possessed and controlled by the Spirit of God.

• “For ‘In him we live and move and have our Being.’” (Ac 17:28)

Spirit of Supplication
Continuing Ministry

• When he takes full possession of us, all selfishness vanishes.

• We no longer want the Spirit for ourselves alone but for others as well.

• “Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.” (Mt 10:8)
Key Principles
Intercession

1. Make sure that your heart is clean before God (free from sin). (Ps 66:18, 139:2-3)

2. Acknowledge that you cannot pray without guidance, direction and power of the Spirit (Rm 8:26)

3. Ask God for you to be utterly controlled by his Spirit. (Ep 5:8, Hb 11:6)

Key Principles
Intercession

4. Die to your own imagination, desires, and burdens in order to pray for others. (2Cor 10:15, Pr 28:26)

5. Deal aggressively against the enemy, the devil. (Lk 4:31-35, Jms 4:7, 1Pt 5:9)


Key Principles
Intercession

7. Praise him in faith for the remarkable experience you will have with him. (1Tm 6:11-16)

8. Wait in silent expectancy when he utters a message. (Jn 10:27, Lk 12:36)

9. Always have the Bible with you as the Lord may have a message for you (2Tm 3:16-17)
**Key Principles**

**Intercession**

10. Praise and thank him for whatever he has given you. (Rm 11:36)

- Now to him who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine, by the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ep 3:20-21)

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**Essential Elements**

**Intercession**

5 essential elements of effective intercession:

1. There must be the heart's desire.
2. The expression of that desire in prayer.
3. The faith that carries that prayer to God.
4. In that faith the acceptance of God's answer.
5. Then comes the experience of desired blessings.

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**Interior Disposition of Intercessors**

1. Righteousness
2. Faith
3. Gratitude
4. Humility
Marks of Intercessors
Imitation of Christ

1. A sense of the needs of souls;
2. Christ-like love in the heart;
3. Consciousness of one’s personal impotence;
4. Faith in the power of prayer;
5. Courage to persevere in spite of everything;
6. Assurance of abundant reward.

Source of Power
Character and Relationship

1. Character and Relationship
   • “If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.” (Jn 15:7)
   • Success depends on one’s character and relationship to the Subject of intercession.
   • Our power in interceding depends on how we live our life.

Source of Power
Perseverance and Fruitfulness

2. Perseverance and Fruitfulness
   • We receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. (1Jn 3:21-23)
   • Lack of power in prayer often proceeds from praying unperseveringly or wrongly.
   • Fruitfulness in prayer is a sign of God’s favor.
3. Abiding and Yielding

- “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. (Jn 15:1-2)
- Fruitfulness requires abiding in Jesus.
- Barren branches only sap away vitality.

4. Pruning and Cleansing

- “Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned.” (Jn 15:6)
- Our inordinate attachments even to good things could distance us from God.
- These must be pruned away and cleansed.

Anointing of Intercession

*In Partu* Signs

- Intercession = Being Christ for Others
- Identification = Becoming the Other
- Burden-Bearing = Bearing the Other
- Travailing = Birthing the Other
- Spiritual Warfare = Battling for the Other
Anointing of Intercession

In Partu Signs

Becoming the Other: IDENTIFICATION

“Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.”
Lk 23:34

Birthing the Other: TRAVAILING

“Woman, behold your son.” “Behold your mother.”
Jn 19:26-27

Bearing the Other: BURDEN-BEARING

“Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.”
Lk 23:34

Battling for the Other: SPIRITUAL WARFARE

“Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”
Lk 23:43

Being Christ For Others: INTERCESSION

“Woman, behold your son.” “Behold your mother.”
Jn 19:26-27

Becoming the Other

Identification

1. Identification (Homoioma)
   • State and condition of being one and the same with someone or something.
   • 1st sign, when Jesus “became like us in everything except sin,” (Hb 4:15) thus, we become like those we intercede for.
   • This is how we may truly be called “Christians” i.e. “Christ-like.”

Bearing the Other

Burden-Bearing

2. Burden Bearing (Bareomai)
   • Carrying or sharing of a heavy load on one’s back or with one’s hands.
   • 2nd sign when “he bore our infirmities and endured our sufferings” (Is 53:4) we feel the whole weight of sin.
   • Thus we take the burden upon ourselves so the person may be “released from blame.”
Birthing the Other
Travailing

3. Travailing (Pascho)
- Work especially of a painful and laborious nature, toil; esp. as it applies to childbirth.
- 3rd sign when he “gave birth” to new creation like “a woman in labor, in anguish for her hour has arrived” (Jn 16:21).
- Task of “midwifery” that a new person may be “born again” or “renewed” in the Spirit.

Battling for the Other
Spiritual Warfare

4. Spiritual Warfare (Polemeo)
- Struggle between opposed or competing forces, i.e. the Holy Spirit vs. the evil one.
- 4th sign when he came face to face with the powers of darkness and “drove out the ruler of this world” (Jn 12:31).
- Experience of the evil one’s putting up a final but ultimately futile stand.

Anointing of Intercession
Post Partum Signs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intercession</th>
<th>= Being Christ for Others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-Emptying</td>
<td>= Bequeathing the Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fullness of Joy</td>
<td>= Blessing the Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laying Down One’s Life</td>
<td>= Bereaving the Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Anointing of Intercession

Post Partum Signs

Bequeathing the Other:
SELF-EMPTYING

Blessing the Other:
FULLNESS OF JOY

Laying Down One’s Life

Being Christ
For Others:
INTERCESSION

“I thirst.”
Jn 19:28

“It is finished.”
Jn 19:30

“Father, into your hands, I commend my Spirit.”
Lk 23:46

Bequeathing the Other:

Self-Emptying

5. Self Emptying (Kenosis)

- Process of being made empty or void, vain or aimless, of losing oneself.
- 5th sign when “He emptied himself” (Ph 2:7) a feeling of emptiness, of exhaustion, and of an almost unquenchable thirst.
- Sense of having passed the child, having “donated” oneself, a feeling of depression.

Blessing the Other:

Fullness of Joy

6. Fullness of Joy (Pleroma)

- Sense of joy in the “fullness of time” denoting its completion and finality.
- 6th sign when “grief becomes joy” (Jn 16:20); the sense of relief and gladness of heart at the end of an exhausting task.
- Wave of euphoria in one who gave birth, having come to fullness of “womanhood.”
Bereaving the Other
Laying Down One’s Life

7. Laying Down One’s Life (Agorazo)
   • Total and absolute sacrificial offering of one’s life for the sake of another.
   • Final sign when “he died that we might live” (2Tm 2:11) a sense of dying to self, of allowing the Spirit to take over one’s life.
   • A feeling of lightness of the spirit, of total release, of a “readiness to die.”

Reflection
Questions

• Can you share about times of intercession in the past which you found especially powerful? How do you respond to the Spirit’s call for intercession?
• How persevering are you in your intercessory prayer? Share about a time when your perseverance in prayer paid off.