

“CAN YOU BE COUNTED ON AS AN INTERCESSOR?”

- I. THE POWER OF A PRAYING CHURCH
- II. THE POWER OF PARTNERING WITH GOD IN PRAYER FOR EVANGELISM
- III. THE PROMINENT PLACE OF PRAYER IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST
- IV. THE VALUE OF PARTNERING WITH YOUR SPOUSE IN PRAYER
- V. THE POWER OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

A. Intercessory Prayer DEFINED

1. The word “*intercede*” basically means to _____.
2. When we become intercessors it is the highest form of praying-- as we _____ in the _____ between a person who has a genuine need and we plead his/her case to the Almighty God.
3. Christ is our supreme example of intercession when He _____ for us, and then _____ in our place as our Substitute. (Isa. 53:12; 1 Tim. 2:5; 1 John 2:1-2; Heb. 7:25)

B. Intercessory Prayer is NEEDED

1. In Isaiah 59:15-16 the moral and spiritual degradation of Israel caused the Lord to be displeased, but on top of that, “*He saw that there was _____, and wondered that there was no _____.*”
2. The human _____ to intercede evoked a strong _____ from a righteous God.
3. Things might have turned out _____ if there had been an intercessor on his knees. (Ezek. 22:29-31)

C. Intercessory Prayer was PRACTICED in the Old Testament

--Job (Job 42:7-10)

--Moses (Exodus 32:7-14; Deut. 9:18-20)

--Samuel (1 Sam. 12:16-25)

* Are you doing more worrying than interceding when it comes to praying for your own nation?

D. Intercessory Prayer was PRACTICED in the New Testament

1. Jesus constantly prayed for the needs of _____ and He _____ for people to intercede for others. (Matt. 5:44; 9:36-38; 14:23; 19:13-15; Luke 6:12-13; 11:5-13; 22:42)

2. The Apostle Paul prayed...
 - a. for _____ in specific churches (Rom. 1:9; 2 Cor. 13:7; Eph. 3:13-14; Philip. 1:3-6, 9-11; 1 Thess. 1:2-3)

 - b. and he _____ for intercessory prayer from these same people. (Rom. 15:30-32; Col. 4:2-4; 1 Thess. 5:25; 2 Thess. 3:1-2; 1 Tim. 2:1)

3. Epaphras is the only co-worker of Paul who carries the distinction of having been specifically commended for his _____ intercessory _____ of prayer. (Col. 4:12-13)

E. Intercessory Prayer should be ENCOURAGED and PRACTICED TODAY!

1. There is no time like the present to consistently intercede on behalf of not only your personal _____, but also for those you might _____ even know.

2. **WANTED!** Believing _____, _____ and _____ who will stand in the gap as intercessors in prayer for the saved and the lost!