

WHAT IS AN INTERCESSOR?

In Isaiah 59:16, Isaiah is prophesying. He says, "And he (God) saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore, his arm (which is Jesus) brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him." Jesus came to earth as an intercessor. From the day He was filled with the Holy Spirit to the present day, He has been involved in the ministry of intercession. Romans 8:34 says, "Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us." Seeing that Jesus is involved in intercession tells us the importance of finding out what it is and doing it.

What is intercession? W. E. Vine says that an intercessor is a mediator, a go-between, to meet with in order to converse on behalf of others. Kenneth Copeland interprets the meaning as, "An application of spiritual force by the Holy Spirit for someone else."

You see, intercession is simply going to God on behalf of someone else's need rather than your own. It is releasing the power of God for someone else who needs Christ or for someone who is facing a problem or crisis in his life, then seeing them walk in victory over it.

Every child of God is called into a ministry of intercession. I have heard it said that there are those with a special calling upon them to intercede. The reason why there seems to be a greater anointing on that person to pray is because they have dedicated and committed themselves to intercession. Jesus said, "...many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:14). You decide by your commitment to intercession whether you are chosen. We all should realize that the more time we spend doing something, the more effective we will become at it. The ministry of intercessory prayer is not a part of the fivefold ministry gifts God gave to the Church in Ephesians 4:11. It is a ministry that everyone is to be involved in from the least in the Kingdom of God to the greatest.

There are two ways to intercede: 1) pray God's Word over the situation, or 2) pray in the Spirit. This book is designed to teach you how to pray and confess God's Word for your family, friends, church, city, nation, and the world.

I challenge you to enter into a life of intercessory prayer as Jesus did. We know that Jesus had authority over the devil and that He was the Son of God, but His purpose as an intercessor was to GIVE Himself for us that we might have eternal life. John 15:13 says, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." In the same manner that Jesus laid down His life for us, we should lay down our lives in intercessory prayer, for there is no greater love.

—Terry Nance

Associate Minister, AGAPE CHURCH