**What is Intercession and Intercessory Prayer?**

**Dictionary Definition:**

Intercession is to go between two parties and mediate an agreement.

**Biblical Definition**

**- to rush, to urge by petition, to reach a superior with an urgent request**

**In Intercessory prayer we are not producing anything…what we are doing is ESTABLISHING and ENFORCING the agreement that Christ already mediated (interceded) on Calvary.**

1. Reconciliation to God

2. Freedom from the control, defects, plans and works of the enemy...such as sickness, bondage, addiction, etc.

**We are "co-laborers" with Christ " 1 .Cor. 3:9…PARTNERS**

The cross is the greatest example of intercession

Jesus on the cross was an act of intercession **- a meeting**

Heb. "paga" - 'meeting', reach, strike

Paga is a battlefield term...'a violent meeting'

**Ps. 85:10**"Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed"

**2 Cor. 5:18-20** "Now all things are  of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God."

* **When we intercede we are arranging a meeting of;**

- Healing to sickness

- Freedom to bondage

- prosperity to poverty

- Life to death

**The Divine Order of Prayer**

**1. To the Father - THE PROVIDER**

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." (James 1:17)

**2. In the name of the Son - THE ACCESS**

"For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father."

(Ephesians 2:18)

**3. By the power of the Holy Spirit - THE CHANNEL**

"But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit," Jude 1:20

# Categories of Prayer

**(1) Strategic**—long-range goals. Colossians 1:9-12; Matthew 9:37

**(2) Tactical**—immediate goals and needs. Colossians 4:2-4; Ephesians 6:19

**(3) Logistic**—physical and support needs. Jam. 5:13-20; Acts 12:5, 13:3; Philippians 1:19

Prayer should always target the provision of God so we can fulfill His purposes for the body of Christ in the Great Commission—evangelism and building people in Christ for ministry. The prayer life of the believer ought to revolve around:

* **who we are**—ambassadors of Christ
* **where we are**—on temporary assignment in the world
* **why we are** —to represent the Lord Jesus

# Times of Prayer

**(1) Private**

Scheduled: Psalm 5:3, 88:13, 119:147; Matthew 6:6

Spontaneous: Nehemiah 2:1-4; Psalm 56:3; 1 Thessalonians 5:17

**(2) Family** Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4

**(3) Corporate** Acts 12:5, 16:25; 1 Timothy 2:8

# Prerequisites for Effective Prayer

**(1) Personal relationship with Jesus Christ**

John 14:6

**(2) Walking in fellowship: Sins confessed and Spirit-controlled.**

Psalm 66:18; 1 John 1:9; Ephesians 6:18

**(3) Living by the Word**

Proverbs 28:9; John 15:7

**(4) Praying in faith**

Matthew 21:22; Mark 11:24; Hebrews 11:6; James 1:5-8; 1 John 5:14-15

# Hindrances to Effective Prayer

**(1) Failing to pray or ask.**

James 4:2

**(2) False motives in prayer.**

James 4:3

**(3) Broken relationships.**

1 Peter 3:7; Mark 11:25-26; Matthew 5:44

**(4) Pretentiousness in prayer.**

Matthew 6:5-6

**(5) Impatience.**

Psalm 27:14, 37:7; Luke 18:1

# Reasons and Motives for Prayer

## Because It Is Commanded in Scripture

This alone is sufficient reason. God has spoken on the matter and it must be important or He would not have given us this privilege and responsibility. 1Timothy 2:8

## Because of Our Need

**- The problem of our inadequacy**: There is the need of prayer because of our great inadequacy versus God’s perfect sufficiency and ability to meet our needs and provide for our lives. He is the all-sufficient one with whom nothing is impossible, while we are just the opposite. With man many things are impossible but with God nothing is impossible. Luke 1:37; 19:26; Mark 9:23; 10:27; 14:36; Luke 18:27; 2 Corinthians 3:4-6; Matthew 17:20

**- The problem of demonic powers**: There is the need of prayer because of the battle with demonic forces and powers who are many times stronger than we are. Prayer is needed to employ our armor and experience God’s super-abundant power against the enemy. Dan. 10:1. Ephesians 6:10-18

**- Our inability to bear fruit apart from God**: Prayer is needed for fruit bearing. Without the Lord we can do nothing. Prayer is one of the ways we bring the power of Christ to bear on our ministries and service. John 15:5-9

-  **The issues of our total dependency on God**: We need prayer because of our needs in general in the many details of life for which man is dependent upon God whether he realizes it or not. Ps. 24:1; 23:1; 50:10; 89:11; Acts 14:17; and 1 Tim. 6:17. Everything comes from Him—food, clothing, housing, travel, ministry, open doors for the Word. Eph. 6:18; Luke 10:1. Colossians 4:2-4

## Because of What Prayer Accomplishes: James 5:16; Matthew 17:20

## Because of What Happens Without Prayer

Without prayer we faint and we fail. Luke 18:1 He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart,

## Because It Is Part of Our Service to God and Others

Prayer is a privilege and responsibility God has given us as believers to serve or minister to and on behalf of others in displaying the loving concern and care of God. 1 Peter 2:5-9; Hebrews 13:15-16

## Because It Glorifies the Lord John 14:13; John 15:7-8; Romans 15:6