

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

1 TIMOTHY 2:1

"I URGE, THEN, FIRST OF ALL, THAT REQUESTS,
INTERCESSION, AND THANKSGIVING BE MADE FOR EVERYONE..."

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Sermon outline

(a)	WHAT	– What is intercessory prayer
(b)	WHY	– Why we intercede
(c)	WHO	– Who we intercede with
(d)	WHEN	– When does it matter
(e)	WHERE	– Where we receive help
(f)	HOW	– How to be an intercessor

**Intercession is required
and commanded**

Ephesians 6:18

**“¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit
on all occasions...
always keep on praying
for all the Lord’s
people.”**

1 Timothy 2:1-2

**“First, I tell you to
pray for all people
... pray for rulers and
for all who have
authority...”**

Part A **WHAT**

What is intercession?

Petitionary prayer is prayer **for yourself**

Intercessory prayer is prayer **for others**

My experience

Why pray for people?

Intercession is overlooked. It is neglected
Why do so few take intercession seriously?

Our attitude

You have direct access to God.
Why do you need me to pray for you?

Prayer for people

There is prayer and there is intercessory prayer

**“Mentioning”
people in prayer**

1 THESSALONIANS 1:2
**“We always thank God
for all of you and
continually
mention you
in our prayers.”**

**Wrestling
for people in prayer**

COLOSSIANS 4:12
Paul said Epaphras
“... is always
wrestling in prayer
for you...”

Luke 11:5-8

Picture of intercession:

Waking up at midnight
to beg for bread for a
friend who needs to
eat.

You must feel a burden
to be this bold.



A burden for a friend
made him
bold to beg

Part B

WHY

Why is intercession necessary?

“One body” is a spiritual reality
We are created to be dependent on others

Part B: Why is intercessory prayer necessary

Jesus prayed

JOHN 17:9, 20

“⁹ I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,
²¹ that all of them may **be one...**”

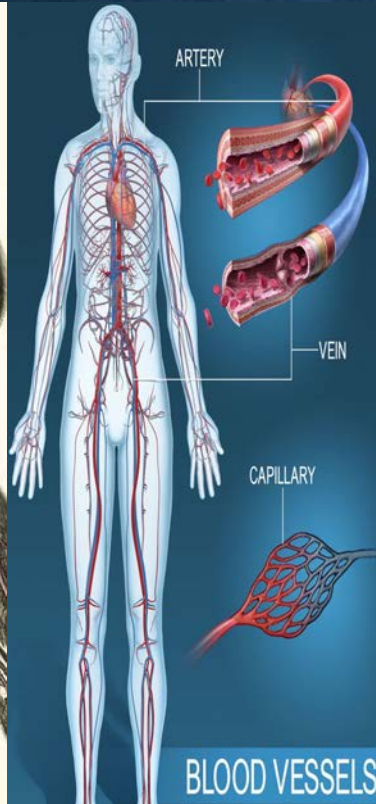
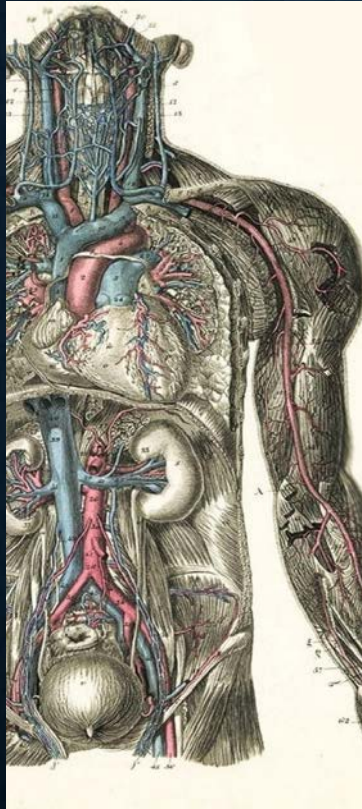
Paul explains

1 COR 12:25-26

“²⁵ ...there should be **no division** in the body, but that its parts should have **equal concern** for each other. ²⁶ **If one part suffers, every part suffers with it...**”

GAL 6:2

“² **Carry one another's burdens...**”



19,000 km of blood vessels

Arteries, veins, and
capillaries are connected

Functions of blood vessels:

transport oxygen-rich
blood, and oxygen-poor
blood, deliver nutrients,
bring waste products to the
kidneys and liver;
deliver antibodies



1 CORINTHIANS 12:12, 20, 27

“¹² Just as a body,
though **one**,
has many parts, but all its many
parts form
one body,
so it is with Christ....

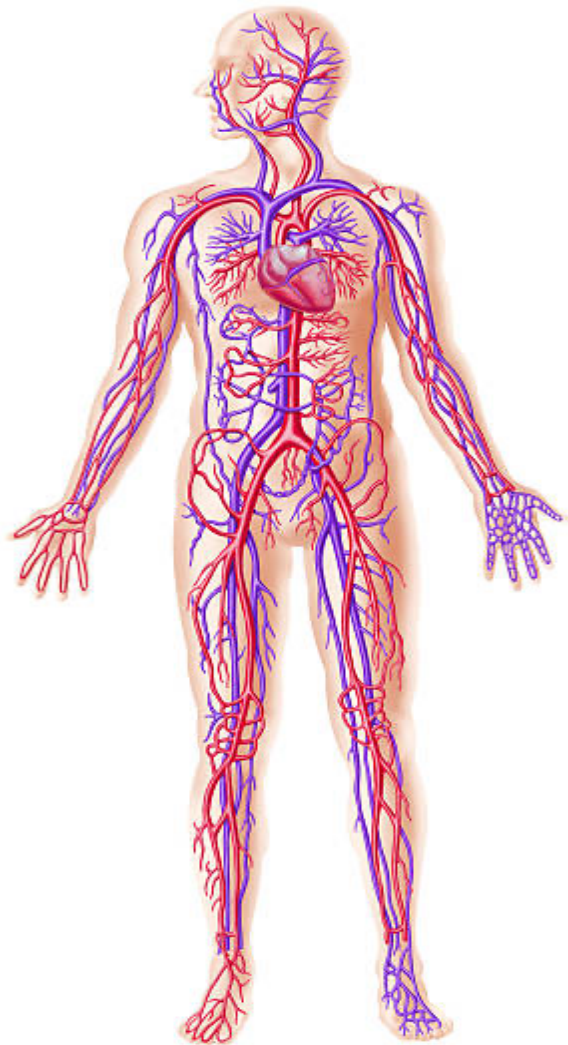
²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but
one body,....

²⁷ Now you are the body of
Christ, and each
one of you is a part of it.”



This is God's design

No one can do everything,
but everyone can do
something. None of us can
do what all of us can do.
We are dependent on
others to function.



We are vitally connected to
receive spiritual nutrients
and spiritual oxygen

Through ministry and prayers,
we deliver what God supplies

We need prayers, like we need
blood

Eph 6:18 "Pray... on all occasions."
1 Thess 5:17 "Pray without ceasing."

Part C WHO

Who we intercede with

Acts 1:14

**“¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer,
along with the women and Mary the mother of
Jesus, and with His brothers.”**

Intercession is learned.

**We pray for people
when we pray with people**

Corporate prayer is helpful

ACTS 1:14

“They all joined together constantly in prayer...”

My experience in Malaysia



Part C **WHO**

Who we intercede with

**Story of Jim Cymbala
and daughter Chrissy**

We pray for people when we pray with people

Corporate prayer

Jesus wants us to pray together

Matthew 18:18-19

“¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.”



The background is a dark, textured field of orange and purple hues, filled with numerous small, bright white specks resembling stars or distant galaxies. Overlaid on this are various geometric shapes, primarily triangles, in shades of brown, tan, and dark purple. Some of these shapes are solid, while others are outlines or semi-transparent, creating a layered, abstract effect. The overall composition is dynamic and visually rich.

Part D
WHEN

When does it matter?

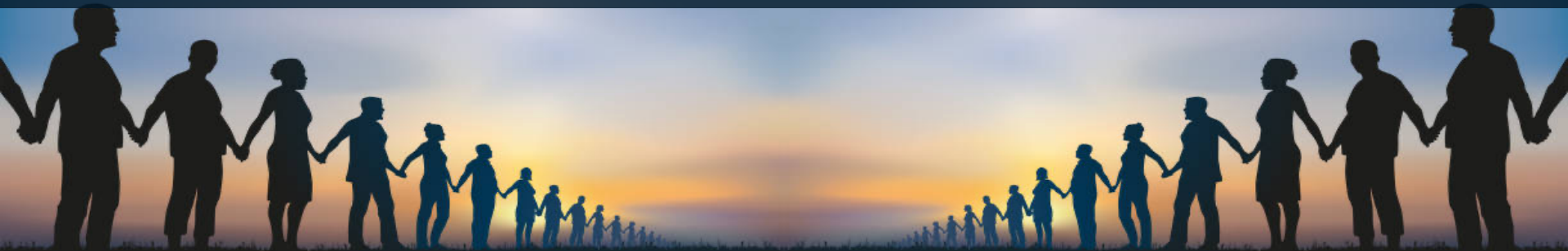
Keep a prayer journal
Pray for a burden
Listen for direction

Start with people in need ...

ROMANS 15:30

“... strive together with me in your prayers...”

Some are far from God.
They have no desire to seek Him.
The weary have no words to say.
The weak have no strength to pray.
The discouraged have no faith to ask.



Why people need our prayer

Who?

Like handphones without battery power, intercessors stand in the gap like the charging cables.

**We seek God's face,
and ask God for
power and grace.**



Part E
WHERE

**Where do I get help
when I am stuck?**

**The Holy Spirit,
our consultant**

**Jesus,
our prayer partner**

Jesus is our prayer partner

HEBREWS 7:24-25

“²⁴ ... because Jesus lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore ... He always lives to intercede for them.”

HEBREWS 5:7

**“During the days of Jesus’ life on earth,
He offered up prayers and petitions
with loud cries and tears ...”**

When Jesus leads

Our prayer can change direction
example

The Holy Spirit – our prayer consultant

ROMANS 8:26-27

“²⁶ In the same way the Spirit helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit **intercedes for the saints in accordance to the will of God.”**

EPHESIANS 3:20

“²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than **all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us.”**

The Holy Spirit is our prayer “consultant.”



“Help” =
“synantilambanomai”

Meaning “To take hold
of opposite together”

Signify mutual effort,
cooperate

Part F **HOW**

**How to establish an
effective prayer life?**

**The foundation of a prayer life is
our relationship with the Father**

How we view people determines how we relate to them

Example:

**If a friend is important & busy, and if we
feel unworthy, we stay away**

A correct view of God [LUKE 11:13]

**“¹³ ...how much more shall your heavenly Father
give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?”**

Prayer and relationship

LUKE 11:9-13

So I say to you, **ask,**

seek,

and to him who **knocks**

and it will be given

and you will find

it will be opened

¹¹ If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? ¹² Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? ¹³ If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?



President John F
Kennedy and his son,
John Kennedy Jr

The foundation of our prayer life is a relationship with God

**Above all that you can ask for,
we have the best:
God Himself**

Ephesians 3:12

**“In Him and through faith in Him we may
approach God with freedom
and confidence.”**

Intercessory prayer corporate prayer

ROMANS 15:30

**“I beseech you... for Christ’s sake...
strive together with me
in your prayers...”**

**We pray for people
when we pray with people**