

How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life by Dr. Gregory Frizzell
Chapter 7 - Powerful Intercession
Wednesday AM/PM – 9/13/17

Intercession is the type of prayer that is primarily focused on the needs of others. As with petition, we must put a greater emphasis on interceding for eternal issues rather than temporal.

Ezekiel 22:30 - *I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it; but I found no one.*

In this text, the intercessor stands between God and those who deserve judgment. The prayers of intercessors are God's foundational strategy for evangelism, missions, discipleship, revival, and spiritual awakening. *"Tragically, most denominations and churches put great emphasis on programs, promotions, and strategies while skimping on prayer. The lack of power in many ministries is explained by a very shallow level of intercession.* As with petition prayers, many believers are caught in a type of intercession that is far too general and unfocused. Our intercession must move beyond prayers like, "Lord, save all the lost people." Or "Lord, just bless our church." Technically, those prayers are not wrong, but they are extremely general and lack the power of specific, biblical intercession.

There are 2 key questions that are important to consider if our intercession is going to be effective.

1. Where Do I Focus My Intercession?

One foundational principle is to *let your greatest focus be issues with eternal rather than temporal significance.*

Key Subjects for Consistent Intercession (Be specific, name them)

- 1) Spiritual
- 2) Spiritual needs of coworkers, classmates, and those we see in daily life (gas station workers, waitresses, sales clerks, doctors, etc.)
- 3) Those who don't know Christ
- 4) Spiritual growth and protection for new Christians
- 5) Backslidden believers
- 6) Your pastor, staff and key lay leaders
- 7) Revival and growth in our church
- 8) Missionaries and persecuted believers

- 9) Key denominational leaders and agencies (local, state, and denominational)
- 10) Spiritual leaders and key churches of all denominations
- 11) National leaders (the president, governors, mayors, etc.)
- 12) Local, state, and national government
- 13) Sweeping revival and spiritual awakening (local, national and worldwide)
- 14) Key mission initiatives and strategies (local, state, national and global)
- 15) Key evangelism initiatives and strategies (local, state, national and global)

This a general guide for you to develop and pattern to pray for certain categories on certain days. Be sensitive to Christ's leading in your daily prayer time.

2. How Do I Pray "Specific" Prayers of Intercession?

The more specific and biblical our prayers, the more we have before God. Ask Christ to enable you to pray these prayers in the unique manner and wording He gives you.

Examples of Specific Intercessory Prayers

For the lost and backslidden

Lord, pour out Your Spirit upon (name of person) and:

- *Convict* him of his sin and separation from You. **John 16:8**
- *Reveal* to him who You are and what Christ has done for him.
- *Open* the eyes of his understanding. **Ephesians 1:18.**
Remove the spiritual blindness. **2 Corinthians 4:4**
- *Draw* him to Yourself in a powerful fashion. **(John 6:44)**
- *Bind* Satan from him. Guard him from Satan stealing Your Word from him **(Matthew 12:19).**
- Pray for grace and mercy to surround him.
- Help me to be willing and anxious to be the means by which You save and deliver him. Lord, show me how to lead him to Christ.
- Send people across his path to bring him a witness of Christ.

Prayers for pastors and spiritual leaders

Biblical passages that can easily be used as prayers for pastors and leaders are **Colossians 1:9-11; Philippians 1:9-11.**

Pour out Your Spirit on (your pastor's name) and grant him:

- An overwhelming sense of Your presence
- Powerful conviction of sin
- A deep spiritual zeal and love for You
- The anointing, power and filling of the Spirit
- Clear discernment of Your will
- Deep purity and holiness
- A wall of protection from Satan's influence
- Abundant fulfillment of his personal and family needs
- Pure relationships and protect his marriage
- Fruitfulness in his ministry
- Pure motives

Twelve specific prayers for your church

- Pray for a powerful move of God's Spirit to bring deep conviction, repentance, and a mighty release of God's power.
- Pray for a powerful anointing and direction upon our pastor and all teachers and church leaders. (Name them)
- Pray for deep love among members.
- Pray that strife and disunity will be subdued.
- Pray that Satan be completely bound from all the members and activities of the church
- Pray for a strong wall of protection to surround the church and its members.
- Pray that the church will clearly receive God's direction in all decisions and ministries.
- Pray that the church clearly discerns God's vision for that particular congregation.
- Pray for a spirit of passion in all ministries and initiatives.
- Pray for blessing and abundance of resources to do God's work.
- Pray for God to raise up many laborers for His work.
- Pray for a powerful spirit of worship, prayer and holiness to permeate the church.

Ten specific prayers for revival and spiritual awakening (p. 84)

(To be prayed for churches, cities, and nations)

- Ask God to pour out deep conviction of sin, spiritual brokenness, a holy fear of God and genuine repentance among His people.

2 Corinthians 7:10

- Pray for deep cleansing, genuine repentance, and spiritual power to engulf pastors and Christian leaders.

- Pray for God to bestow spiritual hunger in His people and draw them to fervent intercession.
- Pray that God will bring loving unity in our churches and a deep harmony between our churches.
- Pray that God would fill His people with a passion to see people saved.
- Pray that God will give His people a passion for missions and starting churches.
- Pray that God will call thousands into ministry, missions, and Christian service.
- Pray that God will pour out His Spirit like a mighty purifying fire. Ask God to purify our "motives" as we pray for revival.
- Pray for a mighty move of conviction and salvation to engulf major communities of cultural influence. (Examples on p. 86)
- Specifically pray for God to pour out His Spirit in a fashion even greater than He did in earlier revivals.

Seven Specific Prayers for Local or National Elections (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

- Pray for people to seek God in how they vote.
- Pray that people will not put economics or politics above the godly and biblical foundations upon which America was founded.
- Pray for God's Spirit to fill the voting booths and guide people as they vote.
- Pray that huge numbers of godly people will turn out to vote
- Pray for people to follow God's guidance, not just political parties
- Pray that God will give us godly leaders of integrity who will govern in wisdom and righteousness.
- Pray for God to have mercy on America and stay His hand of judgement.

As you meet with God, He will guide you in your own prayers and reveal biblical promises to claim before His throne.