

Intercessory Prayer is Powerful

A. Can God Count on You to Make Things Happen in His Kingdom?

1. Some people are good at making things happen.
 - a. James 1:25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.
 - b. Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.
2. Many people hear about what is happening.
 - a. James 1:23-24 ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.
 - b. Don't be a forgetful hearer and not a doer, even after hearing inspiring testimonies.
3. Other people are still wondering, what happened?
 - a. Mark 14:37-38, 40-41 ³⁷ Then He (Jesus) came and found them sleeping...Could you not watch one hour? ³⁸ Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation...⁴⁰ And when He returned, He found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him. ⁴¹ Then He came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough!
 - b. Don't be complacent by giving-in to slumber. Prov 1:32; Prov 6:9-11

B. Why Should You Intercede?

1. 1 Tim 2:1 I exhort first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.
2. Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

C. Who Can Intercede?

1. Any Believer who has a willing heart to intercede for others.
2. Ez 22:30 So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.
3. Isaiah 59:16 (AMPC) And He saw that there was no man and wondered that there was no intercessor [no one to intervene on behalf of truth and right]; therefore His own arm brought Him victory, and His own righteousness [having the Spirit without measure] sustained Him.

D. How to Intercede Effectively.

1. The Definition of Intercession (Intl Bible Standard Encyclopedia):
 - a. The Greek means to intercede, to urge...with petitions, when on behalf of another.
2. Ps 122:6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: may they prosper who love you.

3. 1 Tim 2:1-4 ¹Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. ³For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
4. Rom 8:26-27 ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.
5. Follow the model of great intercessors, like Smith Wigglesworth.
 - a. He governed his emotions, subdued his body, and took dominion over satan.
 - b. God used Smith Wigglesworth to do many miracles, including raising the dead.
 - c. He said, "I want you to see that the Master's idea was of a river flowing (like Niagra Falls) through everyone who comes to Him." Smith Wigglesworth would stand before Niagara Falls and ask God "to flow through his life like that. Come Lord...through me. Flow through me like this" (power).
He also said that, "In Acts 1, we find that Jesus 'began both to do and teach.' The believer should always be so full of the Holy Spirit that he begins to 'do,' and then he can 'teach' as well." He felt that each believer should evangelize and "be ready for the man in the street. We ought to be so full of the manifestation of the power of God that, in the Name of Jesus, we can absolutely destroy the power of satan. We are in the world—not of it (John 17:11, 14). Jesus overcame the world (John 16:33), and we are in the world to subdue it unto God—as overcomers. We are nothing in ourselves, but in Christ we are more than conquerors (Rom. 8:37) through the blood of Jesus—more than a match for satanic powers in every way. Therefore, may the Lord let us see that we must be loosed from ourselves. For if you examine yourself, you will be natural, but if you look at God, you will be supernatural. If you have a great God, you will have a little devil...."
6. Intercessory Prayer is Powerful.
 - a. Matt 17:20 If you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, move from here to there, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.
 - b. Jer 29:11-14 (Amplified) ¹¹ For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,' says the Lord, 'plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear [your voice] and I will listen to you. ¹³ Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me and require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you,' says the Lord, 'and I will restore your fortunes.
 - c. James 5:16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much [makes tremendous power available dynamic in its working (AMPC)].