

## What is intercession?

*1 Timothy 2:1-6. <sup>1</sup>I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, **intercession** and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- <sup>2</sup>for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself as a ransom for all men--the testimony given in its proper time.*

Enteuxus , a Greek noun is the word for “intercession”. It means a “meeting with,” a conversation or petition rendered on the behalf of others. Intercessory prayer is praying for the needs of others as we seek to enter the presence of God. Intercession is standing in the gap for another person.

We are asked each Wednesday night to be in prayer for someone or something in our church or community. We are being called to intercede. The newsletter has a list of people needing prayer in our church and their family and friends. We have small groups that have prayer requests. Friends ask us to pray for them.

When we pray for these people we are calling out to God through the greatest intercessor of all, Jesus Christ, to work in the lives of those we know and love. And even those we don't know personally.

In 1st Timothy 2:1 God tells us to pray for everyone. We should be praying for our church leaders, local government and for our president and our nation. We need to stand in the gap for our family, friends and our church family. We need to cry out to God for those that don't know the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

## How do we intercede?

There is no set formula for prayer and intercession. Let The Holy Spirit lead you. Try following the guide set by Andrew Murray. Be quiet, worship God, think on His greatness, expect great things.

*"Each time, before you intercede, be quiet first, and worship God in His glory. Think of what He can do, and how He delights to hear the prayers of His redeemed people. Think of your place and privilege in Christ, and expect great things!" Andrew Murray*

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you who and what He wants you to pray for. If someone comes to your mind during the day, pray for them. If you are awakened during the night thinking about a person, pray for them.

*"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."--Ephesians 4:32*

If you are angry with someone, pray for them. This is hard, but be persistent, keep praying, it will get easier each time. Ask God to let you see the person as He sees him.



George Mueller gives some awesome guidelines for intercession. Pray for God's will, ask in the name of Jesus, believe that God answers prayer. Continue in prayer until God releases you or you see the answer. Expect the answer and wait until it comes.

*George Mueller:*

*The great point is, that we ask only for that which it would be for the glory of God to give to us; for that, and that alone, can be for our real good. But it is not enough that the thing for which we ask God be for His honor and glory, but we must*

*Secondly ask it in the name of the Lord Jesus, viz., expect it only on the ground of His merits and worthiness.*

*Thirdly, we should believe that God is able and willing to give us what we ask Him for.*

*Fourthly, we should continue in prayer till the blessing is granted; without fixing to God a time when, or the circumstances under which, He should give the answer. Patience should be in exercise, in connection with our prayer.*

*Fifthly, we should, at the same time, look out for and expect an answer till it comes. If we pray in this way, we shall not only have answers, thousands of answers to our prayers; but our own souls will be greatly refreshed and invigorated in connection with these answers. "*

*Matthew 18: 19-20... "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.<sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."*

*Matthew 6:6 But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.*

God's Word tells us to pray by ourselves and to also gather together to pray. When you are by yourself you can be completely free to pray, praise and seek God's counsel. You can repent and ask His forgiveness and spend time interceding for others.

There is power in agreeing in prayer with others. It can be a time of glorifying our God together and becoming close to those that you are in prayer with. Each person should have at least one other person that they pray with on a regular basis that can intercede for you when you are in need and that you can intercede for when they have needs.

God calls all His people to intercession. Some he will call to a deeper level of intercession. Spend time with God and know what He is calling you to do. The important thing is to be obedient to God's calling. Remember each time you go to God in prayer to listen. Be still and hear what He has to say, then trust that God **is** speaking to you.

*James 5:16...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*

