

Basic Training PRAYER ~ Part 2 Dr. Khaalida Forbes, Facilitator December 1, 2015

Introduction: Ephesians 6:18 (AMP)

The Greek word most often used for "prayer" in the New Testament contains much deeper meaning than most believers realize. The word demands <u>surrender</u> and <u>consecration</u> on the part of the one making the request.

The word "prayer" used in Ephesians 6:18 is taken from the most commonly used Greek word for "prayer" which is *proseuche*. This is a compound Greek word derived from the words *pros* and *euche*.

<u>Pros</u> = is a preposition meaning face-to-face. The idea conveyed by this word is one of intimacy.

<u>Euche</u> = is a word that means a wish, desire, or vow

Intercessory Prayer

<u>QUESTION</u>: Does a sovereign, all-powerful God need our involvement or not? Is intercessory prayer really necessary?

ANSWER: God shapes the world by prayer. The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be. The prayers of God's saints are the capital stock of heaven by which God carries on His great work upon earth. God conditions the very life and prosperity of His cause on prayer. **2 Chronicles 7:11-15**

- A. God's original plan was for us to have <u>dominion</u> in the earth. Genesis 1:26-28
- B. God didn't give away ownership of the earth, but we are created to be God's managers, stewards, or governor's in the earth.
 Psalm 8:3-8, 115:16

<u>QUESTION:</u> "What is intercessory prayer?"

<u>ANSWER:</u> Intercessory prayer is the act of praying on behalf of others. The role of mediator in prayer was prevalent in the Old Testament, in the cases of Abraham, Moses, David, Samuel, Hezekiah, Elijah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. *Christ is pictured in the New Testament as the ultimate intercessor*, and because of this, all Christian prayer becomes intercession since it is offered to God through and by Christ. Jesus closed the gap between us and God when He died on the cross. Because of Jesus' mediation, we can now intercede in prayer on behalf of other Christians or for the lost. **Romans 8:34, 1 Timothy 2:5**

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C. A wonderful model of intercessory prayer is found in **Daniel 9.** It has all the <u>elements</u> of true intercessory prayer.

7 Elements of Intercessory Prayer

- 1. Intercessory Prayer is in <u>response</u> to the Word (v. 2)
- 2. Intercessory Prayer is characterized by <u>fervency</u> (v. 3)
- 3. Intercessory Prayer demands self-denial (v. 4)
- 4. Intercessory Prayer <u>identifies</u> unselfishly with God's people (v. 5)
- 5. Intercessory Prayer is strengthened by <u>confession</u> (v. 5-15)
- 6. Intercessory Prayer is dependent on God's <u>character</u> (vv. 4, 7, 9, 15)
- 7. Intercessory Prayer has as its goal, God's <u>glory</u> (vv. 16-19)
- Like Daniel, Christians are to come to God on behalf of others with a repentant attitude, and recognizing their own <u>unworthiness</u>.
- Daniel does not say, "I have a right to demand this out of You, God, because I am one of your special, chosen intercessors." He says, "I'm a sinner," and, in effect, "I do not have a right to demand anything."
- True intercessory prayer seeks not only to know God's will and see it fulfilled, but to see it fulfilled whether or not it <u>benefits</u> us and regardless of what it <u>costs</u> us. True intercessory prayer seeks God's glory, not our own.
- D. The following is only a partial list of those for whom we are to offer intercessory prayers: 1. All in authority (<u>1 Timothy 2:2</u>)
 - 2. Ministers (Philippians 1:19)
 - 3. Jerusalem (**Psalm 122:6**)
 - 4. Family & Friends (Job 42:8)
 - 5. Fellow countrymen (**Romans 10:1**)
 - 6. The sick (**James 5:14**)
 - 7. Enemies (Jeremiah 29:7)
 - 8. Those who persecute us (Matthew 5:44)
 - 9. Those who forsake us (2 Timothy 4:16)