

IT'S PRAYING TIME!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
ABOUT PRAYER INTERCESSION

*Inspired By
God the Father*



*Written By
Dr. Kimberly K. Clayton*

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*What You Need to Know About
Prayer Intercession*

Inspired by: God the Father

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Dr. Kimberly K. Clayton's Books:

- 1) *It's Praying Time & Soul Winning Time*
- 2) *It's Praying Time & Humility is Required*
- 3) *It's Praying Time & No More Idols*
- 4) *It's Praying Time & Obedience Is Required*

Dedication

I would like to dedicate this book to my daughter, Elise, who has been on this spiritual journey with me, even when she wanted to do other things. Elise you sacrificed; I see it but most importantly God sees it. Mommy thanks God for you and she knows she is blessed to be trusted with a daughter like you. I may not have thought to ask God for his very best concerning you, but I sure thank God that I can be trusted with His very best!

I also dedicate this book to my Grandmothers, Willene, Gracie and my bonus Grandmother (Great Aunt) Mary. I have been extremely blessed to have praying Grandmothers like you who intercede for me and love me the way you do.

Acknowledgments

I would like to acknowledge God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Spirit for their unconditional love and patience with me. I am forever grateful for all You have done for me. Thank you for bringing the right people at the right time into my life! God, I see you working in my life and I thank you for never giving up on me.

I am thankful for my earthly Dad, Mr. Jones, who would encourage me not to give up and to keep going even when I was hard hit by circumstances in life.

To those of you who are a part of my *"It's Praying Time"* ministry, I thank you for your faithfulness to pray with me, and for me and Elise. You too have become a part of our spiritual journey and I honor you for that.

Lastly, to every Godly Intercessor who is still on their Wall of Prayer and maintains their Prayer Watch without fail, may you be encouraged and strengthened for the journey ahead, and know that I salute you!

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Introduction

Sometimes when we wake up in the middle of the night, we think something is wrong with our sleep pattern. That is not always the case. In these times we are living in, God is calling for godly intercessors. Will you answer God's call to intercession? Can God count on you to get up and pray when He wakes you up, even if it's between midnight and 4am? As a matter of fact, can you be trusted to stand in the gap for others who need it most no matter the time of day, whether morning, afternoon, or evening? We are in a critical hour and prayer must go forth like never before! Are you ready to partner with the God the Father, God the Son, and the Holy Spirit?

We want to make the most of every opportunity to win souls for Jesus Christ. The truth is eternity is closer for some than others. People are leaving this world at an accelerated rate and unfortunately many are leaving this earth in very tragic ways. We are not just living for this present life, but we are surely living for the life to come. Let me encourage you: do not delay in saying the following Salvation Prayer. Please read this prayer aloud from a sincere heart:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask you for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins, and invite You to come into my heart and life. I ask for the Holy Spirit to dwell in me, to guide me, and to teach me all things. I choose to trust and follow You as the Son of God and my LORD and Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen and Amen.

If you repeated that prayer with true sincerity you JUST GOT SAVED! I encourage you to read your Bible on a daily

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basis. A great resource for you can be accessed by downloading the Bible App at www.youversion.com/the-bible-app/. It will bless you greatly to be able to take the Bible with you everywhere you go. It even allows you to download offline versions of the Bible so you can still read the Bible without internet access. This Bible App even reads the Bible to you, has devotionals, bible study plans, and more. It is the first App on my smartphone!

I would recommend getting a paper Parallel Study Bible that has the King James Version (KJV) and the New Living Translation (NLT), or another version of your choice that helps you to understand the scriptures.

We are praying with you because getting saved is just the first step! Reading the Bible every day is the second step. The third step is to pray and ask God the Father to lead you to a church home where you will be planted, rooted and established in the Word of God. A good church home is one that teaches and preaches the Bible without watering it down. Many churches are still ministering for the Lord even if the doors of the church building are not physically open.

If you prayed the Salvation Prayer and got saved, please let us know by emailing us at itsprayingtime2020@gmail.com. We would like to pray for you and encourage you along your spiritual journey. You can also email us any prayer requests you might have and we would be honored to pray for you.

Chapter 1

What is Prayer Intercession?

Let's make this simple and easy to understand. Intercession is praying for God's divine intervention and mercy upon a particular person, group of people, or situation so as to prevent judgment or punishment.

Often times we are called to *stand in the gap* for a particular person or situation. Let's explore what this truly means. In biblical times, ancient cities were often surrounded by a wall to protect its citizens from danger. If the wall was breached by an enemy, the city was vulnerable to destruction. The only way to secure the city once again, was for people to risk their lives by literally *standing in the gap* of the wall and fighting the enemy. Spiritually speaking, this is what we do when we pray.

We can learn more about this phrase "stand in the gap" by examining a well-known scripture in the world of intercession. It's found in Ezekiel 22:30 (KJV): "*And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.*" We live in a very sinful and fallen world. Just watch the news, look around your neighborhood, peruse social media, and it's easy to see that this ain't Heaven here! Because of that, we can see that sin brings about the wrath of God, especially repeated, deliberate, and willful sins. This includes, but is not limited to, disobedience.

Ezekiel 22:30 shows how God was looking for a man to make up the hedge. "*Make up the hedge*" could also be read as "make up the difference" or "compensate for" or "cover the costs" of rampant sin. This type of man had to be holy, dedicated to God, and set apart for God's use. It's a startling

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reality that during this time, not even one man could be found to be a holy intercessor so that the wrath of God could be diverted. Let this serve as a reminder to all of us who are called to stand in the gap, that we must do so through holiness, integrity, humility, faithfulness, and trustworthiness.

Please read Ezekiel chapter 22 in its entirety as it will help you to see some of the things that are still happening today. Ezekiel 22:25-29 (NKJV) reads as follows: *“The conspiracy of her prophets in her midst is like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured people; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have many widows in her midst. Her priests have violated My law and profaned My holy things; they have not distinguished between the holy and unholy, nor have they made known the difference between the unclean and the clean; and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them. Her princes in her midst are like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy people and to get dishonest gain. Her prophets plastered them with untempered mortar, seeing false visions, and divining lies for them, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord God,’ when the LORD had not spoken. The people of the land have used oppressions, committed robbery, and mistreated the poor and needy; and they wrongfully oppress the stranger.”*

This scripture reveals to us that God could not rely on the prophets and priests of that time. When things go as God intends them, usually prophets and priests are godly, holy, loyal, well respected and qualify to be intercessors. This scripture shows the importance of being godly, holy, consecrated and set apart for God’s use, especially as it pertains to intercession. We cannot approach God in an unworthy manner and think that it will be okay. The truth is God has standards and we must make every effort to comply, achieve and live those standards.

It is unfortunate that the prophets and priests of that time were concerned more about money and material possessions than they were about warning the people of the consequences

for their sins, the need for holy living and the wrath of God that would come if they did not repent.

Let's touch on repentance. Repentance is more than just verbally confessing your sins to God; it is also making every effort to turn away from your sins. That is why it is critical to ask God, in Jesus' name, to give you the strength to not commit those same sins again. God wants to help us, but we need to be honest with Him and work with Him in our deliverance and godly transformation on a daily basis.

Let's look at the role of the *prophet*. The prophet is often referred to as "the mouthpiece of God" or, in other words, God's liaison of correction and instruction. The prophet is mostly known for warning about the wrath of God if the people do not sincerely repent.

Now let's look at the role of the *priest*. The priest (or pastor) is known to be dedicated to God's Word, as well as to religious and spiritual customs. The priest is also committed to God's sheep (the church) and instructing the people of God.

Look at how awesome God is in providing a truly dual safety net for the people of God! If the priest (pastor) falls short or goes astray from God, and the prophet is in divine order with God, there is still hope for the people that they will have an ear to hear a personal directive from God, causing them to sincerely repent and turn back to God. We often refer to the prophet's words as "Thus says the Lord" because they are a firm and bold declaration of instructions that come from God Almighty and not the prophets themselves.

Now, let's reverse this lens and consider if the prophet goes astray from God and begins to prophesy lies, but the priest (pastor) is in divine order with God. Once again, there is still hope for the people of God! When the priest (pastor) instructs them truthfully and with the wisdom of God, the people of God will not be deceived by the lies of the false or wayward prophet. Thus, we can see there is a built-in backup plan, so to speak, to ensure the people of God stay on track.

However, we can see in Ezekiel chapter 22 that is not the case. Both the prophets and the priests (pastors) had totally gone astray, disobeyed God and unfortunately were a terrible example to the people. This impacted everyone, including the princes (government leaders), the people of God, and even unbelievers. Because of this, it is clear that the wrath of God could not be avoided in this situation. The God we serve is a loving and merciful God. He does not want to punish us, but we have to do our part and obey Him.

Let's continue looking at the phrase "stand in the gap". To stand in the gap could be understood as "to serve as a devoted prayer mediator". Remember that God prefers not to pronounce judgment which leads to the wrath of God (punishment). Yet when we examine Ezekiel chapter 22, God makes it clear in verse 30 that he was looking for a holy, devoted prayer mediator, but he could not find even one. God has not changed.

Let this serve as a reminder to us that even when society (the culture and places we live in) are changing and becoming more rebellious towards God, God's Word stands true. We, as the people of God, must remain steadfast in our obedience, loyalty and faithfulness to God. God is making it clear that the prophet and priest (pastor) must not sell out for money, material possessions, power, or prestige. God has blessed us with free will and it is important that we choose what is righteous and holy.

Obedience to God is the key. Whenever you have been called by God to fulfill His purpose in the earth, you are equipped to know right from wrong, godly from ungodly, and moral from immoral. God requires His leadership to lift up His standards, and to be a role model of them. Godly leaders have influence that should be used to demonstrate the love of God, further the Kingdom of God, encourage the people of God, and win the unbeliever.

If you find yourself reading this book, you can know it is not by chance or by accident, and surely not by coincidence. Now is the time to examine yourself. Are you doing what God

requires of you? Are you living a holy and acceptable life before God and others? Have you compromised and put money, material possessions, prestige or power, ahead of godly principles, morals and duty? If so, now is the time to truly repent before God. Confess what you have done wrong and ask God to strengthen you to turn away from any wrongdoing (sins). Allow God to restore you, deliver you and truly forgive you so you can be utilized by God to fulfill His call on your life with integrity and holiness.

Intercession is heartfelt communication with God, not merely chanting words written by others. When the disciples wanted to know how to pray, Jesus instructed them that we do not chant; we do not repeat the same words or phrases over and over again. As a matter of fact, Jesus called that vain repetition. Matthew 6:7 (KJV), *“But when ye pray, use not vain repetition, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.”* In other words, we have to have enough faith to know that when we pray, God hears our prayer. Our faith is not in vain repetitions, thinking that if I say it over and over, God will grant it sooner. Our ultimate faith lies in God. Our trust and dependence are in Him and His abilities to answer our prayers.

In the season and time that we live in currently, it is critical to have unwavering faith in GOD LIKE NEVER BEFORE! Remember, vain repetition is indeed chanting, and chanting is not prayer. Our motives need to be pure, righteous and honorable before God. We are not praying to be on display before God and people. We are not praying to receive accolades and excessive praise from men or women. We are not praying because we feel we have earned the right to or because we feel we are more holy than someone else. We are not praying against others because they offended us or hurt us in some way.

It's important to remember that we are praying from a pure, clean, humble, and loving heart. The more we do so, the better our prayers will be. We truly want to bring glory to God and represent Jesus Christ to the fullest. Remember you may never

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know who is watching you. There is more than one way to win souls for Jesus Christ.

~ Summary ~

What is Prayer Intercession?

- ❖ **Intercession is PRAYING FOR GOD'S DIVINE INTERVENTION AND MERCY upon a particular person, group of people, or situation so as to prevent judgment or punishment.**
- ❖ **Intercession is STANDING IN THE GAP for those who cannot do it for themselves yet.**
- ❖ **Intercession is MAKING UP THE HEDGE, by stepping in to make up the cost of wrongdoing.**
- ❖ **Intercession is DEVOTED PRAYER MEDIATION with God the Father on behalf of the disobedient.**
- ❖ **Intercession is a HOLY NEGOTIATION with God the Father for mercy and a change of heart from His wrath.**
- ❖ **Intercession is TALKING PLAINLY and SUCCINCTLY to God the Father.**
- ❖ **Intercession is NOT CHANTING or VAIN REPETITIONS, which demonstrate a lack of faith.**