



JESUS
APPRENTICESHIP
2023

Session 7:

‘What is Intercessory Prayer and how do we do it?’

Questions:

Here are a few questions to help guide your conversation. Share practical tips and back it up with Bible verses where appropriate. Take some time at the end to pray and intercede together.

1. What stands out to you from the video?
2. Who should be involved in intercession and why?

1 Timothy 2: 1 – 4 I urge you first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them, intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for Kings and all who are in authority so we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Saviour, who wants everyone to be saved and understand the truth. (NLT)

Galatians 6:2 Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.

3. Have you ever been in position where other Christians were praying for you? Share your experience.
4. What are some of the obstacles for you when it comes to praying for others?
(Here are some examples, Romans 17:19, Romans 8:7. Share some things you have encountered in your own life)
5. What is most helpful to you in building a life of regular intercession? –
Share practical tips that can help others strengthen their walk in intercession.
(Romans 8:26)
6. Have you ever had the feeling that you need to pray for someone or a situation that you had not previously planned on? Share what happened.
(Romans 8:14)
7. Spend some time together interceding – pray for Corby and for the Nation, listen to the Holy Spirit and see what else He might direct you to pray for.

Notes:

What is intercessory prayer?

Prayer said on behalf of someone else:

- 1 Timothy 2:1-4 - for all people, kings and all in authority
- Ephesians 6:18 - all the Lord's people

Not just a calling or gifting for a few people in the church, but **all** have a responsibility to practise this discipline.

How do we do it?

Look at examples in the Bible of intercessory prayer:

- Genesis 18 - the story of Sodom
 - Abraham prays for people, city or nation
 - Abraham bargaining with God to save city because of righteous persons (NB We have one righteous person in Jesus)

We can pray what God lays on our heart

Privilege people to be able to pray/intercede

- Numbers 12:1-4 Miriam and Aaron rebelling against Moses
 - Miriam having leprosy
 - Verses 10-14 - Moses prayed for her - standing in the gap (NB simple prayer)

Not so easy to pray for people who are not friendly or grumpy and difficult.

- Daniel 9:17-19 - worshipping God, extolling God and praying for mercy for God's people
 - local church, also across town, nation and world
 - opens way to encounters with God
- Acts 12:4-5 - Herod persecuting church.
 - Peter in prison and church all praying earnestly for him
 - verses 6-11 - chains are broken, people set free, power of God released

Why would we not pray? Great privilege!

William McGill quote "The value of constant prayer is not that He will hear us, but that we will hear Him".

What is on the Father's heart?

Prayer for people around us, things we see, where we see a need.

What he leads us to pray for - dancing in step with the Holy Spirit!