

INTERCESSORY PRAYER - IV

“The Power of Prayer”

(2 Chr 7:14 KJV) If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

I. GOD'S PROMISES TO US.

- A. *I will hear from heaven.*
- B. *I will forgive their sin.*
- C. *I will heal their land.*

II. GOD'S CONDITIONS.

- A. *If my people...*
- B. *Shall humble themselves.*
- C. *Pray.*
- D. *Seek my face.*
- E. *Turn from wicked ways.*

III. MISCONCEPTIONS TO HINDER PRAYER.

- A. *God knows what I need.*
- B. *Need to stand on Word and believe.*
- C. *God is sovereign.*

IV. THE NECESSITY OF PRAYER.

A. *Jesus' prayer life.*

1. Beginning of ministry. "And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." (Mk. 1:35)
2. Middle of ministry.
 - a. *(After miraculously feeding the 5000)* (Mat 14:23 KJV) And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.
 - b. *All night prayer.* (Luke 6:12 KJV) And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.
3. At end of earthly ministry. Luke tells us He went out, as was His habit, to pray.
4. On the Cross. "It is finished."
5. In heaven. "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

B. *Command to pray.*

1. Pray and not faint. (Luke 18:1 KJV) And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;
2. Pray for harvest. (Luke 10:2 KJV) Therefore said he unto them, The

harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.

3. Afflicted are to pray. (James 5:13 KJV) Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.
4. Sick call for elders. (James 5:16 KJV) Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

C. ***Effects of prayer.***

1. Changed countenance.
 - a. (Luke 9:28 KJV) And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray.
 - b. (Acts 4:13 KJV) Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.
2. Word of God to have free course. (2 Th 3:1 KJV) Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:

V. PROCEDURE OF PRAYER.

A. ***Humble selves, pray, seek God's face, turn from wicked ways.***

B. ***Ask, seek, knock.***

C. ***Ask.***

1. (James 4:2 KJV) Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.
2. (James 4:3 KJV) Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.
3. (James 1:5 KJV) If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
4. (John 14:13 KJV) And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (John 14:14 KJV) If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.
5. (John 16:24 KJV) Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.
6. Conditions.
 - a. (James 1:6 KJV) But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
 - b. (John 15:7 KJV) If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.
 - c. (1 John 3:22 KJV) And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are

pleasing in his sight.

- d. (1 John 5:14 KJV) And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:
- e. (1 John 5:15 KJV) And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

D. *Seek.*

1. (Deu 4:29 KJV) But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.
2. (2 Chr 14:7 KJV) Therefore he said unto Judah, Let us build these cities, and make about them walls, and towers, gates, and bars, while the land is yet before us; because we have sought the LORD our God, we have sought him, and he hath given us rest on every side. So they built and prospered.
3. (2 Chr 15:4 KJV) But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them.
4. (2 Chr 17:3 KJV) And the LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father David, and sought not unto Baalim;
5. (2 Chr 26:5 KJV) And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper.
6. (Psa 34:4 KJV) I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

E. *Knock.*

VI. CORPORATE PRAYER.

- A. Acts 2 - "in one mind..."
- B. Acts 3 - upon persecution.
- C. Peter's jailing.

VII. PERSEVERING IN PRAYER.

- A. Phil. 1:4-6 - "*Be careful for nothing...*"
- B. Eph. 6:18 - "*Praying always with all prayer and supplication...*"
- C. Pray without ceasing.

VIII. SPIRITUAL WARFARE IN PRAYER.