

Melva's Corner

THE POWER PRAYER

November 6, 2006

(II Corinthians 10:4, 5)

Central Truth: Intercessory prayer is the highest expression of love. It is impossible to be selfish when interceding, because intercessory prayer is always for another person's benefit.

As you know I rarely repeat articles but we, as ministry, are about to enter a serious level of intercession. With this in mind, I thought it would be strategically important to repeat our article on Intercessory Prayer.

Intercession is a form of prayer that brings change. Praying the prayer of intercession is doing spiritual warfare. The Bible says that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. (II Corinthians 10:4, 5)

Intercession prepares the hearts of people to receive the Gospel because it tears down the strongholds of deception that Satan has brought them. Revivals have never been the results of just good preaching. The preaching of the Gospel with power is the result of prayer. It takes the anointing of the Holy Spirit to cause change in the hearts of people. Intercession is the tool that activates that anointing.

Satan has no defense against this form of prayer. It brings his works to naught. How does it accomplish this? Through **"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."** **Ephesians 6:18.** It is through intercessory prayer that we wrestle against the evil of the enemy and win!

The inherent power, of the intercessory tool, is the fact that anyone can use it. No matter who you are in the body of Christ, minister or lay person, you can have an eternal effect on the lives of other through your intercession. All it takes is a decision to start praying specifically for a person, family, city, state, nation or

church. Do not wait for a burden or a feeling to motivate you to pray. Jesus acted because God told Him to act!

Intercessory prayer is the highest expression of love. It is impossible to be selfish when interceding, because intercessory prayer is always for another person's benefit. It is putting a halt to the influence of Satan in their life so that they can walk in the fullness of the redemption that God has provided. As you make yourself available to the Holy Spirit as an intercessor, praying for all men, you will begin to see the power of God working through you to get others saved and free from Satan's power.

It takes perseverance to be a successful intercessor. You do not need to persevere trying to persuade God to do something when you are praying for someone else. God has already provided salvation, healing, abundance, and deliverance through Calvary. It takes perseverance against the forces of darkness that are trying to maintain their hold on the person for whom you are praying. When those strongholds are destroyed, the spiritual blinders are removed, they will be able to see clearly and receive their deliverance.

Intercession is putting spiritual pressure on demonic forces. It is also puts a demand on the Word of God to come on the scene and bring God's power to deliver.

It does not matter what you're standing against. It may look dark and hopeless, but intercession works. You are snatching that person right out of the clutches of Satan. If you will just stick with it, keep applying that pressure, you will see them come out of the snare of the enemy. Your prayers can bring the very presence of God to people in any part of the world. There is no distance in the spirit. It is your persistence that will make the difference.

Paul told Timothy to stir up the gift that was within him. You can stir up that gift by making the decision to stand in the gap for the lost, the sick and the oppressed. It is the will of God that they be delivered from the evil in this world. The Holy Spirit, dwelling in you wants to see them free. He needs you as a vessel through which He can accomplish His will. As you decide to yield yourself to Him, you become an extension of Jesus' ministry, making the redemption He provided available to those you pray for.

Once you've made the decision, keep your faith on the line and keep the pressure on Satan. You have joined forces with God to change situations. Lay hold of it and stay there until it changes! Intercession is the key that unlocks the inheritance of the kingdom of God in the lives of others.

Scriptural References:

“The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.” (II Corinthians 10:4, 5)