

Life Outside the Box! **Part 7: "Intercession!"**

"Brothers, what we do in life echoes for eternity!"

Spiritual Warfare! One battlefield away from having supernatural peace in the Kingdom of God! Our enemy does know he's conquered... but won't stop! Must keep strength and honor and hold the line while we're in this war for men's souls... Cannot worry about danger or personal cost! *Only heaven out ahead of us!*

Outside the Box... Is where our God-planned lives are! Is where God's resources flow and miracles take place! Is where Father, Son and Holy Spirit are at work redemptively! Is where the souls of mankind await rescue...

Left off... Talking thru issues of spiritual warfare... Requires checking up, armoring up, muscling up for prayer... Not "for-my-profit" prayers... Ready to make "raids" on the realms of darkness! Running to, not from, battles. Taking the light into darkness...

Ephesians 6.10-12 Finally my brothers, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in high places!

2Corinthians 10.3-4 "Though we walk in the realm of the flesh we do not war after the flesh for the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly but mighty thru God for the pulling down of strongholds, and, demolishing "reasonings," and, things made high from regions of dominion where our adversary rules!"

And then we touched the issue of intercessory prayer!

1Timothy 2.1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men...

"The Charter of Missions" and the universality of the Gospel: *PRAYERS FOR ALL MEN!* God's will to save is as wide as His will to create! *Prayer makes a difference!*

Prayer Primer...

Supplications: deesis: asking! "Asking is the symbol of our need/desire/helplessness..." **"Be anxious for nothing; let your requests be made known."** Asking God for things is scriptural... Jesus opened the way to God! **"Give us this day..."** Supplication is good practice for other forms of prayer! Right attitude!

Prayers: "worshipful" asking! Supplications can be made to God or man... simple "asking!" But "prayers," proseuche, turned toward God alone! **Luke 6.12** "He went to the mountain to *pray*, and continued all night in *prayer* to God." Proskuneo: to reverence and bow down to God

We never have to draw back from asking God for anything, but let us always ask in faith *with love and honor!*

Intercessions: enteuxis: to fall in with someone... Mediation! Standing between God and man, as an advocate! Standing between Man and the devil as warrior! Standing anywhere in the world without leaving home! Standing equal with any minister in the world!

Billheimer: "Many people grieve because they have been denied service in missions or some other field, but thru intercession they accomplish as much and reap as great a reward as though they had been in the field themselves!"

Models of Intercession... “But *Abraham* stood before the Lord, drawing near, and said... Will you not destroy the righteous with the wicked? ...And again he said. ...and yet again. ...and once more. ...again and one last time...” **Gen18.22ff** Many times, *Moses*, interceded for the people of Israel! *Daniel*, for the people, and the times... **Dan 2/9/10** *Nehemiah/Isaiah/Jeremiah*

“The *Spirit of God* helps us in our weaknesses, for we don’t always know what and how to pray, so He Himself makes intercession for us... according to the will of God!” **Romans 8.26,27** “*Jesus* who died and rose again who is now at the right hand of God makes intercession for us!” v34

Intercession is a way of life for God’s people who stand outside the box, ready to intervene!

SWAIGTDWWIKN?

Let my love simmer! When you become more people conscious than self-conscious... WY meditate on the situation until you “feel” their plight... Intercession goes beyond lip service to passionate concern! WY contrast your passion for people with your distaste of the evil one who comes to steal, kill and destroy... **TASTE INTERCESSION!**

Make my voice heard! Obviously toward God/prayer! Asking for help... Declaration in the spirit realm! Can think great thoughts and wish nice things but until you demand release... Sometimes a lone voice, sometimes a “cacophony!” Sharing the burden, lighting up the way together...

Make a raid on darkness! Once you have plowed the field... Make your way toward the captives to effect release! “Pray... then make your way” to the side of those taken captive! Intercessory prayer is great, powerful, releasing... But, if possible, make certain the deliverance of the one you love!

And finally my brothers... When we talk about intercessory prayer... The next logical step is to call for prayer meetings! But until the fires are fanned and burning in us... It’s just a location change... not a “meeting” of intercessors!

I long to see our place lit up with fiery intercessors... Many pastors feeling the need to teach/preach prayer... But if the teaching is received as information and not as inspiration/ignition... “Not doer’s of the word...” Deception can be very bad! We have to open up to a *move* of the Spirit of God!

1st major hindrance is that it’s “just prayer!” No worship band, no childcare... “Too boring, too hard, awkward! “Too many things I have to do! “I go to so many other things...” Must be a Holy Spirit fire burning in your bones, needing expression! Wait until it’s your need!!!

“We can do more than pray *after we have prayed...* but we *can’t do more than pray until after we have prayed!* -Gordon

2nd hindrance is an enemy who does all he can to prevent us! “There is nothing the devil dreads so much as prayer. His great concern is to keep us from it. He loves to see us up to our eyeballs in work, as long as we don’t pray. He doesn’t fear that we are eager and earnest students of the Bible, provided we pray little. He laughs at our toiling, mocks our wisdom, but trembles when we begin to pray!” –The Kneeling Christian

Why prayer? Because it brings our Father onto the scene and when He is near the devil must flee!

3rd hindrance is past, bad experiences! Don’t see anything changing! How do you know that? Meeting got interrupted by weirdness! People always will be... but we have a pretty strong leadership team! Meeting turned into gossip fest in the disguise of prayer! See above!

Without intercessory prayer... Our world(s) will not be shaken and our nation won’t be changed! Demon powers will rule over rulers and in masses, unchecked! People we know and love will remain in bondage! The world will not see Him coming in power to deliver!