



# NEW CROSSING CHURCH

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**Prayer Series: Upward. Inward. Outward.**

**Study 11: Intercession: Standing In The Gap**

Note: You can listen to or watch the sermon of the same title, Craig Robertson, Mar 27, 2022

*Hearts that experience God's love and transformation will burn with compassion for others that ignites prayers of intercession.*

**What Is Intercession?** Standing in the gap for the needs and concerns of others.

Our hearts expand with love as we spend time with our Lord in Upward prayers of worship and praise. Even in our laments to all that is wrong in our lives are met with a God who listens and offers mercy. Then something extraordinary happens, our thoughts become burdened for others and we want God to come to their rescue. Our love for God turns into prayers of love for others, even when they are our enemies (Lk. 6:27-28).

God's Kingdom will not advance in this world without prayers of intercession. But will the Lord find people willing to stand in the gap? (These questions are optional)

1. Read Ezekiel 22:30 The Lord uses a picture of a fortified city with a wall around it to represent a person's life. What do you think it means for a person to have a breach or gap in the wall of their life? What does God think about this and what does he want from us?
2. Read Romans 8:34, Hebrew 4:14-16; 7:25; 9:24 Jesus is our High Priest who lives to intercede for us. How does this affect you knowing this?

**Why Intercede For Others?** People need us to stand in the gap for the salvation of others. Salvation is more than an unbeliever's need for eternal life. It also includes the area of a believer's life that is in trouble.

(These questions are optional)

3. Read Psalm 106:23. This verse is referencing the story in Exodus 32 when God's people began worshiping a golden calf while Moses was meeting God on the mountain top. So God told Moses his wrath would

consume them, but Moses implored the Lord his God for their salvation. He stood in the gap and seemed to change God's mind, because God did not wipe out Israel in his wrath. Do you think you can change the Lord's mind with prayer and have you ever tried?

4. Read John 20:21-22 and 1 Peter 2:5. How do you feel about the calling on your life to be a priest who intercedes for others in the Presence of God?

## **Be One Who P.R.A.Y.S. For Others**

### **1. Praise The Lord For Who He Is And What He's Done**

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. Pray and ask the Lord who is in trouble that he wants you to stand in the gap for. Who is it? Take a moment to praise the Lord as the Spirit leads you into his Presence. Praise reminds us of who we are praying to and that he is a powerful God full of compassion.

### **2. Repent Of Any Unrighteousness The Spirit Shows You**

Read Psalm 139:23-24. Are there any sins that the Spirit is prompting you to confess? We want clean hearts before we begin confronting the enemy and interceding for others. Through confession we remove the power of Satan to bring us doubt or condemnation to our prayers. Do that now quietly to yourself?

### **3. Arm Yourself With God's Word And Stand Against The Adversary**

Read Ephesians 6:16-18. Satan is our true enemy who deceives people and whom intercessors must battle if we are going to set people free. Intercession is a declaration of war on the enemy. What words in these verses speak to our battling the adversary and what do they teach us?

Read 1 Peter 5:8-9 and James 4:7-8. Our greatest weapon is the Word of God spoken in the power of the Holy Spirit! It's important that we engage the enemy, speak directly to him, and defeat him with the Word of God like Jesus did in the wilderness! Can you give an example of how you would stand against the enemy and his lies when interceding for another?

### **4. Yoke Yourself In Prayer With The Holy Spirit**

Read Ephesians 6:18 & Romans 8:26-27. What do these verses teach us about our relationship with the Spirit? To be yoked with the Spirit means we are joined together and in step with his leading (Gal. 5:25). It is important to be listening and adjusting our prayers according to the Spirit's leading, especially when we are not sure how to pray.

## **5. Stand In The Gap For Others With Perseverance**

- Read Ephesians 6:18 (Luke 18:1-8). The Greek word translated supplication, petition, or requests means to plead with tenacity. It's important that we persevere in our prayers and not easily give up. What Bible verses from "God's Word For Prayers Of Intercession" might empower your time of supplication? Take time now to stand in the Gap for someone using P.R.A.Y.S.

## **God's Word For Prayers Of Intercession**

Growing Love for God & Others: Mark 12:29-30, 1 John 4:18-19

Love that leads to obedience and purity: John 14:21, Philippians 1:9-11

Freedom from condemnation: Romans 8:1-2

Renewing of one's thoughts: Romans 12:2, Philippians 4:8

Hope: Romans 15:13

Anxiety and Fear: Deuteronomy 31:8, Joshua 1:9, Matthew 6:33-34, Philippians 4:6-7

Depression: Deuteronomy 31:8, Psalm 34:17-18, Matthew 11:28-29

Anger: Proverbs 14:29, 15:1, Ephesians 4:31

Encouragement for the future: Psalm 139:16, Romans 8:28, Ephesians 2:10, Philippians 1:6

Healing: James 5:14-16

God's strength thru weakness: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, Philippians 2:13; 4:13

God given identity: Psalm 139:13-14, 1 John 3:1

Forgiveness for those who have hurt you: Luke 6:27-28, 23:34, Ephesians 4:32

Marriage: Romans 15:5-6, 1 Corinthians 13:4-5, Colossians 3:14-15

Children and Parents: Ps. 112:1-2, Prov. 1:10,15, Is. 54:13, Rom. 12:1-2, Eph. 6:2-3, Col. 1:9-10, 2 Tim. 2:25-26, Jm. 4:7-8

Friends: Job 42:8

People in authority: 1 Timothy 2:1-5