

## **Intercessory Prayer**

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(All prophecies are Jesus speaking unless otherwise indicated.)

In this day and age, there is a greater need for prayer than ever, and yet so few take this responsibility seriously. To pray is the greatest duty of man, and yet My army of prayer warriors sadly dwindles as man proceeds into the 21st century. It is heartbreaking to see how many situations are not helped because no one prayed. The needs of My lost children loom before Me as they wander as sheep with no shepherd, and I weep for them. I wait for the petitions of those who know Me to plead their cause, and yet there is silence. I cannot do many mighty miracles because My people fail to pray as they should.

The ministry of prayer is a very precious one, but so neglected. It is a great privilege that I bring this need and challenge to your attention, for through this, not only will you find great fulfillment and satisfaction personally, but you will help to change the course of history. You can change the world from your humble prayer corner. You can take hold of the power of God and change lives through your faithful, importunate prayers.

I am so desperate for prayer warriors. There is so much to be done, and more can be accomplished through prayer than through any other means. Yet, in spite of prayer being the absolute most efficient and productive activity in the world, there are very few who fully embrace the calling and make the most of it. There are so few who are faithful with their prayer vigils. There are so few who labor in desperate prayer. There are so few who allow My Spirit to move them and burden them for others, to the point that they feel the need to pray consistently and wholeheartedly, calling on the keys and commanding Me to work on their behalf. <sup>(1)</sup>

Do you know the beauty of intercession? I have said, "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." My loves, now I tell you that greater beauty does not exist than this, that one pour out his heart and soul in intercessory prayer.

This is the beauty of intercession: to plead for another, to petition Me on behalf of one who doesn't have strength or courage to pray for himself; to intervene for one in need; to approach My throne on behalf of one who has no understanding, or may not know what to ask for himself; to work miracles for one who is in need of healing; to make requests for those who are in need of protection and safekeeping; to provide for another, to supply one's needs through your prayers; to solicit help

from the spirit world; to release power; to deliver strength and courage; to lift burdens and liberate captives; to give comfort and spread peace; to prevent disaster; to ward off evil; to build strong walls; to raise force fields; to win battles and claim victories; to stand victorious and triumphant. This is the beauty of intercessory prayer.

I call you, My loves, to be My intercessors. A higher calling than this cannot be had, for those who intercede in prayer change the course of history. They hold the future in their hands. These who answer the call, I will crown with great honor and glory. There is no greater beauty than to pour out your heart and soul, to lay down your life in prayer for another. <sup>(2)</sup>

Praying for other people is what love is all about--it's putting your love in action in the spirit. You're not only thinking of them and desiring to help, but you're doing something about it.

Intercessory prayer requires you to give from your heart. It stretches your love for the person for whom you're praying. Your love for them obliges you to call on Me for their help.

One of the most beautiful results of praying for other people is that your vision becomes less selfish. It fills your heart with more love for the person, because your love for them makes you want to help them in any way possible, and prayer is the key. When you pray for someone you add more power to the victory. The backing is stronger, thus the answer more forthcoming. It keeps you desperate for someone else, so your life doesn't just revolve around you alone; you're reaching out and asking Me to help others as well.

Prayer like this is an example of selflessness, of esteeming others above yourself. It's love in action--reaching beyond your own needs and filling the vacancy within someone else's life. It's making Me the core, the focus, the central figure and center spread. And because you're going out of your way to help others, I reward your sacrifice and love by using the prayers to change and improve your life as well. Also, if someone knows you're faithful to pray for them, in your time of need they will be the prayer support you need as well.

Prayer is a form of giving unselfishly without expecting anything in return, but there are dividends. Try it and you'll experience them. <sup>(3)</sup>

Intercessory prayer is an act of love and sacrifice. It's not easy to pray focused prayers over a long period of time when you don't see results. It takes faith and perseverance. Intercessory prayer can be hard work, but it is the most productive kind of work, because you are enabling Me to work for you. Just think how much more I can do than you. You're just one person, but I am all-powerful, and I have all

of My angels and spirit beings on call as well. Prayer is not just a "better way" to get My will accomplished. It's "the way!" It's the ultimate tool in facilitating My plan. (4)

I place in your hands the tide of the battle. Upon you I bestow this high privilege of intercessory prayer for the furthering of My Kingdom come on Earth. It is a high privilege, a high honor, one that is greatly prized in all the Heavens. For My mighty bulwarks of faith and prayer, My vanguard prayer warriors are among the most respected and highly looked-up-to in all the Heavens. For these to whom I entrust the high privilege of wielding the weapon of intercessory prayer are those who win the battle. There is no battle, no victory that can be won that does not come by way of the mighty prayers of My faithful vanguard corps of prayer warriors--My highly trained and skilled, My most trusted prayer guard. This is the privilege I bestow upon you, My faithful ones. I trust you with the high position and honor to be My prayer guard, My strong warriors of faith and prayer in this mighty battle to establish My Kingdom come on Earth.

Do not tire in prayer, nor be weary at the sound of the trumpet, but lift up your arms in praise. Fix your eyes upward and call on the power of Heaven!

As you, My beloved brides, pray and seek Me in all these matters, know that I will pour out in great abundance. I will open the treasure houses of the Heavens and pour out to overflowing. The effectual fervent prayers of My vanguard prayer corps will avail much. Great and mighty victories will be wrought. You will reap the good of the land; not one prayer will return unto you void. <sup>(5)</sup>

The value of your intercessory prayers is of inestimable worth in worldly terms. If you took all the riches on Earth and combined it with all the riches of the universe, it would not compare to the worth of your prayers. The true value of your prayers cannot be measured nor comprehended. Prayer accomplishes things of eternal importance.

The power you have through prayer is unlimited. The strength you have in prayer is all-powerful. Through prayer you are able to take on My nature; therefore prayer is omnipotent, as am I. As all things are possible with Me, all things are possible to you through prayer. Through prayer you adopt My power, My strength, My resourcefulness.

If you could see the full capabilities that are at your fingertips through the prayers you pray, you would never doubt, not for one moment, that all things are possible to those who are strong in prayer.

There is no stronger power or force than that which comes through prayer. This is why you, My loves, must keep the current flowing. As a hydroelectric turbine needs the motion of water to generate electricity, so your prayers generate motion

in the spirit world. Prayer is what sets things in motion--without it, nothing gets done, nothing is accomplished, nothing moves. This is why I implore you to pray.

In Heaven, prayers are always being offered up; prayer warriors stand watch continually from the towers of the Heavenly City. Yet I have specifically designed it so that without your prayers joining forces with theirs, the prayers of Heaven are not as forceful as otherwise is possible when you pray.

The prayers of departed saints in Heaven, together with the prayers of My angels and spirit helpers, effect awesome change and accomplish many purposes. Yet when you join your prayers with those of the Heavenly realm, the power is far superior. When your prayers are joined, the surges of power I am able to release go way beyond what the prayers on either side can do alone. I have made it this way so that you might work in teamwork with the spirit world to accomplish greater results through your prayers. This is a principle of My Spirit, for in the strength of unity there is unbeatable power.

The current of Heavenly prayer power is always on. It never stops or cuts off. Prayer warriors in Heaven are always on duty. They are always ready to join forces with you. When you pray in the spirit, when your prayers are in line with My will and directed to Me, then your prayers join forces with Heaven and their might and power is multiplied many times over.

This is why you must prevail in prayer, for in the strength of this unity, when your prayers join forces with Heaven, then I can really go to work for you in demonstrating unlimited power and authority over all things in Heaven and Hell, on Earth and throughout the universe. <sup>(6)</sup>

Your prayers move My hand. There's a direct link there. It's not simply a coincidence. You have no idea what a great variety of matters your prayers cover and affect. It's a partnership, a teamwork--you and Me! Therefore I say to you that your prayers work an effectual and mighty work. For each prayer that you pray is bringing to completion and perfection the will of God.

Is not the knowledge of the power you hold within your hands--the power to move My heart and to aid Me in performing My perfect will--sufficient motivation to spur you on in the ministry of prayer? Though you may tire or find yourself weary of spending moments in prayer, yet with this knowledge and remembrance you should find within your soul fresh hope and inspiration and a determination to persist in prayer, knowing that you help to turn the mighty wheels of the universe!

This is My commendation to you: to know that you stand by My side when you stand in prayer, helping Me to fulfill My will, and enabling those you love to perform the tasks which I have set before them. For you are the lifeline of their strength, health, and happiness. Rewards shower down upon you as they shower upon them,

for without the prayer warriors there would be no accomplishments. Therefore you share equally in the reward, and enjoy the blessing of standing close by Me in spirit when you intercede for your loved ones. <sup>(7)</sup>

(Dad speaking:) The Lord allows problems in life--difficult situations, spiritual battles--and one of the main reasons is to teach people to pray. He wants you to come to the end of your rope, to come to the end of all your ideas of what you can do to solve the situation, and realize that He's the One Who's going to do it and pray for His power to work.

He leaves a lot up to you, and if there's something you can do and something He shows you to do to help the situation, that's good and you need to do that. You need to talk with people, counsel with people, receive messages from the Lord, study the Word on the subject, encourage people to ask for united prayer--you need to do all that you can. But in the end, the thing that will help more than anything, and without which all your labors are incomplete, is prayer. Pray for Him to work. Pray for Him to move and do the work in the spirit.

He's the only One Who can change hearts and minds, and He's the only One Who can bring people to the point where they're ready to make spiritual changes. The best thing you can do to help people and help situations is to pray for them. Really pray for them. You can't do the miracle, but the Lord can, and your prayers move His hand and make things happen in the spirit. It not only helps to set things up for the miracle to happen, but gives you peace of mind that you've done the best thing you could possibly do. When you commit things to the Lord in prayer, then you can just trust that whatever happens is in His hands and under His control.

People don't fully realize how important prayer is, and especially if they're very work-oriented people, accomplishment-oriented people, it's all the harder for them to just pray and not always be doing something in the physical. You have to understand that only God can work in the spirit to change things, to change people, change situations, and the best thing you can do to help God and help others is to pray for them. He expects you to pray, and if you're not praying, often He has to wait before He can do the big miracles, because He wants you to pray and keep on praying.

Prayer is a very mysterious spiritual phenomenon and it's impossible to fully understand how the Lord chooses to work, how He chooses to answer prayer, why some prayers are answered quicker than others, why He does an obvious miracle in one situation and not in another. You can't expect to know everything about God's business, but you can trust that your prayers have an effect, and a very big one. Just the fact that you obey and pray brings down His blessings. <sup>(8)</sup>

Praying for your loved ones is the absolute best thing you could ever do for them. It's the most effective way to influence someone's life. Prayer is more powerful and effective than anything you could personally say to those you love; it's even greater and more effective than your personal example to them. Why? Because when you pray, I work. When you pray, I speak to your loved one. When you pray, I influence them. When you pray, My hand moves in their life. And My influence, My words, and My ways are so much more powerful than yours.

I don't want you to feel discouraged when you realize that prayer is all that you can do for a loved one. If your loved one is not close to Me, or they don't agree with your decision to be a part of the Family, prayer is not the last resort but the best resort. Look at it as the difference between giving them a few cents--your efforts and your example--and giving them billions of dollars--My influence and My power.

When you pray for your loved ones, you are drawing on the bank of Heaven on their behalf. You are making them eligible to receive Heaven's wealth. You're telling Me, "This person needs Your help," which moves Me into action on their behalf. When you pray, you hit the button that sets Me in motion to work more directly in that person's life. It's not that I'm not helping or caring for them before you pray; I do still work in their life. But your prayers enable Me to do even more for them.

When all you can do for a loved one is pray, you should heave a sigh of relief and rejoice, because then it's all up to Me. I love to be put on the spot like that! I love to be challenged to prove Myself. When you pray in full faith, there is no limit to what I can do. Prayers of faith remove all limits and boundaries, and that's when I can really go to work!

It's important to understand that just because I'm "on it," due to your praying and committing the situation to Me in prayer, that doesn't mean "presto-change-o," all things will be to your liking in an instant! I don't usually work like that. My miracles--and especially My miracles of hearts and lives changed--often take time to come about.

In some ways, I'm a bit like a chef when it comes to working in people's lives and turning their hearts and spirits toward Mine. I don't like to rush the process. I like to work thoroughly, which sometimes means slowly. I take out all My ingredients. I chop and blend and mince and sauté and slice and mix and pour and taste. It's an intricate process, working in the kitchen of changing lives. It's an art, really; something that must be done right and carefully; something that cannot be rushed, or steps would be missed and the outcome would not be as delectable.

Sometimes you and I work in the kitchen together, as there are jobs that you can do. You chop and I fry, you wash and I mix. It's always enjoyable for Me to

teamwork with you in changing a life and heart. But there are times when I know the job will be done more beautifully and accurately if it's all left up to Me, if it's all in My court--if, through your prayers, you give all of the ingredients, utensils, and stove space to Me so that I can have free rein to work.

During those times, I don't want you to worry that things won't be done well-that the life which you're praying for won't change, that your loved one will never come to accept Me. Neither do I want you to worry that the process isn't going quickly enough. You've got to trust Me, no matter what the situation looks like to you. Trust that in My time I'll call you into the kitchen to check out the progress or to taste the final outcome, and that you are going to be thrilled by the results. That time may not come as soon as you would like it to; in fact, it may not even happen during your or their life on Earth. But if you've done your part to pray and to give Me full room to work in the kitchen, then the good work I've begun will be performed all the way through till the end (Philippians 1:6).

My work in a person's life is also limited by that person's choices. If they're making choices that take them away from accepting Me or opening their lives to My Spirit, then they limit what I am able to do for them. It's like I'm trying to prepare a "meal" for their life with My hands tied loosely together, and with every wrong decision that person makes, the knot around My hands gets tighter and My range of motion lessens.

Your prayers are so important, because when you pray, you're helping to loosen the knots around My hands. Your prayers give My hands greater range of motion. The more you pray, the more room I have to work. The Devil is trying to get that person to make the wrong choices that will tie My hands and tighten the cord around My hands; while you, through your prayers, are loosening the cord and freeing My hands to work.

Don't stop praying, even when it seems like the person is never going to change or the situation is never going to improve. If you stop praying, then not even I can help them as much as I would like to. When you stop praying, you leave Me stranded in the kitchen with My hands tied, limited in what I can do for that personthat dear one whom I love with all My heart.

I need you to keep praying. I depend on your prayers. Even if you have given up on what you can do for someone, don't give up on Me and on what I can do for them.

The victory comes when you don't stop praying, no matter what. If you keep praying, and never, ever let up, if you keep persevering in prayer, then you will be the victor. No matter what, you can always pray, and prayer is more powerful than any force of the Enemy.

So keep holding on to those that you love through prayer. Keep working

through your prayers, so that My hands have the freedom to work and perform wonders in your loved one's life. Don't worry about how long it takes or what the effect of your prayers will be. That's My job. My job is to bring the increase, the outcome, and the desired fruit. Your job is to pray. The more you pray, the more I work. Never give up praying.

You can always be the winner, because you have more persevering power. Your power will outlast Satan's in any battle. So pray, and don't ever let up, and I assure you, you will be victorious, and your prayers will result in lives and hearts changed for My glory and for My Kingdom. <sup>(9)</sup>

Come before Me and ask Me to help you to pray more often for people so that it becomes a habit of thinking of others and their needs and praying for them. It's a little bit like a new thought process where you constantly and frequently have on your mind people and situations that need prayer. So during the times when you normally think of other things or your mind is just sitting blank, it will instead be replaced by thoughts coming to mind of people that are in needy situations, and as you think of them, you can pray for them.

It's like a spirit of prayer, an anointing for a ministry of prayer, so that when you wake up in the morning, or lie down for a nap, or go to sleep at night, you'll automatically think of the current situations and people who need prayer--for traveling, for illnesses, for strength, for their ministries. It becomes a part of you, something that comes naturally to you as a habit, something that is ingrained. This way you'll be praying for loved ones throughout the day, many times a day, as My Spirit reminds you. It's like opening your channel to My Spirit and being sensitive to My whispers, so that every time I bring someone to mind, you're attuned to the need and can pray for them.

If you ask Me to give you the gift of praying for others, I will give it to you, just like any other gift that's available for the asking. It's the gift of being moved to pray for others as My Spirit stirs you. It's the gift of remembering, of letting Me bring to your mind those who need help. It's the gift of having an open channel as I direct your thoughts and give you checks about those who need help.

In this way you can avail yourself of many blank moments throughout the day which can be put to good use--while you're waking up, or sitting on the toilet, taking a shower, waiting for your computer to boot up, or waiting for devotions to start. All of these blank moments actually add up to many hours!--Many little minutes that add up to hours, and hours that add up to days, days that add up to weeks, and weeks that add up to months of time spent in prayer that are available to everyone throughout the day. It's time that is already available. You don't even have to make it,

schedule it, or slot it, or even take from your work time, because it's already there, just waiting to be used. (10)

As you pour out, I will pour in. Give, and it shall be given unto you. As you pour out your heart to Me in prayer for others and their situations, I will look at your heart and your situation and care for you. As you give all you have to Me in prayer and concern for others, I will answer in ways greater than you can imagine. I will pour out an hundredfold unto you and shower your life with blessings.

That's My rule in giving--the more you give, the more you will receive. That's how you receive joy in your life--Jesus, Others, and You!

As you take time and beseech Me for others, I will even answer prayers that you haven't yet been able to formulate or put into words. Sometimes you may not know what to pray specifically, but as you beseech Me for others, as you acknowledge Me and commit people and situations to Me, I will honor that time you've taken for others, because it's My job as your Husband to see that you are well cared for. It is your dependency on Me and your acknowledgment that you need My help and your coming to Me for others that I honor.

As you care for others and are concerned about them and their needs and are taking time to pray for them, you become less worried about yourself and your own needs. You become less self-centered and will be forming good habits of thinking more of others than yourself. You will become more Christlike and full of Me, so that people will see more of Me and less of you. It will have a positive effect on you in every way and your blessings will be numerous.

Intercessory prayer for others, as well as prayer in general, is like a muscle that needs exercise. No matter what you exercise it in, or to whose benefit, your strength in this area will grow and your reflexes will also change because you'll become more conditioned to seeking Me for problems and situations that arise.

Intercessory prayer also rewards the one who is sacrificially praying for others. When you pour out your heart and pray for those around you, I reward you for your giving and loyalty. When you come before Me for others, I will reward your sacrifice. Though a few words in a prayer may seem small, and the giving of your time in a prayer hardly feels like a physical effort, if you would open your eyes more to the realm of My Spirit and the way I operate, you would see that it is the best kind of help you can offer in any situation--even more than taking action in the physical. Putting Me first shows that you have faith in My care for you and those you are praying for, and this faith is rewarded. (11)

(Dad speaking:) I know sometimes you can get quite stir-crazy, just wanting to go somewhere or do something new and different--see new sights, meet new people,

have some variety. As Mama can tell you, sometimes I got quite frustrated having to stay so long in one place. I often wanted to visit the Homes, see the brethren. So I know of the sacrifices you make in being willing to do the jobs you do, day in and day out. It's not easy. In fact, it can be difficult--very difficult.

I'm going to tell you something that maybe you never thought of, and that is that you can travel, you can do new things, you can be a part of all the adventure and change that you see happening around you! "What? What's Dad talking about?" you ask. Well, you can be there through your prayers! You can have a part in the changes, the ministering, and the victories won through your prayers.

Do you remember the story of Sophie the washerwoman? She told the other woman that she had traveled the world--that she'd been to China, India and the South Sea Islands. But the woman knew Sophie had never been anywhere. She'd never been outside the city where she worked day after day washing clothes. But faithful little Sophie went on to explain, "I've sent my hard-earned money to missionaries in China, India and the South Seas, and that money is me! It's my blood, sweat, and tears! So I've been to all those places!"

The same is true of your prayers. When you spend your time in prayer, the energy and power that is generated is you! Through your prayers you personally can have a part in the mission that Peter and his helpers are on. And I'm not just speaking figuratively--I'm talking reality. When you pray, you are there! You're helping, you're ministering, you're helping to win victories, you're encouraging the brethren, you're lightening the load, you're lifting up the arms of these dear ones who need your help.

The job is too big! There's too much to do for just Peter and his helpers to do it all, so they need reinforcements. Of course, you can't all leave your important posts to go to their aid. You can't leave your important work on the pubs or your care of Mama to travel and be by their sides to help. But you can be there just the same! You can be there in your prayers!

When you pray, you take some of their load on your shoulders. You become teamworkers with them, and the Lord is able to delegate some of their burdens, cares, and even workload to you. I know it's hard for you to grasp that this could actually happen, with you being in one place and them being in another, but it works! That's why Peter could testify after his last trip that things went better than ever. He knew it was because you had made a greater than ever concerted effort with your daily desperate prayers. He didn't have to shoulder as much of the load and stress and strain, because the Lord was able to distribute some of it to you.

The more you make yourself available through your prayers, the more the Lord is able to take from their burdens and give them to you! And then through your prayers, you take those burdens and cast them on the Lord. Then He takes those

prayers and turns them into answers--miracles, open doors, changed hearts, anointed decisions, protection, health, strength, signs and wonders!

So if you're looking for something different, a new challenge or some kind of change, I'd venture to say you can find what you need in taking up the challenge to be a prayer warrior. Do something different by adapting your schedule to pray more often, more desperately, more faithfully. Review the messages the Lord and I have given on the importance of prayer and take those Words to heart. Become a support to your loved ones when they need you most! Be available for the Lord to delegate some of others' burdens to your shoulders, and then cast that burden on the Lord through your prayers. You won't be disappointed, because you'll have a part in the results!

You might think this is a poor substitute for the kind of excitement or change you were hoping for. You might think I'm exaggerating here and being overly optimistic. But I guarantee that you'll be surprised at the excitement in the spirit you'll discover if you really put your heart, mind, and soul into being a prayer warrior for those in need.

The Enemy's power to disrupt, destroy, hinder and bring to naught is nothing when countered with the power of the Lord through your prayers! Please recognize the spiritual battle, and not only the great responsibility to pray that the Lord has given you, but the wonderful new ministry of being a prayer warrior that He wants to give you, if you'll just receive it. Then you'll be able to say like Sophie the washerwoman, "I was there! I had a part--because those prayers I prayed are me!" And great will be your reward!

You who stay by the stuff as prayer warriors will receive equally the rewards of those who go forth to battle! The Lord will say to you as well, "Well done, My faithful ones; enter into My joy and My reward!" (12)

During the day, when you think of your loved ones, shoot up a prayer to Me. Beseech Me for their safety and security, for their health and for their strength, for their anointing and their wisdom. Ask Me to put My Words of love and encouragement within their mouths, for there are many who hold their hands outstretched before them, asking that they fill them with good things, and My children must receive these good things from My hands. Therefore pray that I will empower and anoint them.

Ask that My arms of love will enfold them when they are tired, spent, worn, and in need of rest. Ask that they will feel My soothing hand upon their forehead, My tender kisses, and My gentle caresses when they are tired and longing for My company. Ask Me to encourage them when they're tempted to despair or give in to the Enemy's discouragement, for this is a battle which often comes before them.

At any moment of the day, any prayer you can remember to pray for these ones will be put to good use. Your prayers will encourage and strengthen, heal and lift, touch and soothe. And what prayers they're not in need of presently, I will put to use as prevention prayers--that they not become sick, that they continue to be inspired, and that they keep their strength.

Not a prayer is lost, not a breath is wasted! A little prayer--fervent, though short--sent up to My throne, will have lasting results that your loved ones will feel the effects of.  $^{(13)}$ 

Prayer is when you beseech Me with actual words, and you express the need and ask for My help and intervention either aloud or in your mind. Even in the times when you don't know what to pray for or what to specifically ask Me, you can still call on Me and ask Me to intervene. As I have promised, if you pray by My Spirit, My Spirit will make intercession for you. The important part of intercessory prayer is that you have to specifically call on Me, formulate your prayer and make your petition known to Me. You need to make a positive declaration that you need My help. Intercessory prayer is more than a vague mental state. It is explicitly calling on Me for help and asking Me to do something about a situation or need.

You must actively intervene for the person or situation in need. Intercessory prayer is communicating your request in one of these ways--verbalize your prayer, put it into words, say it either out loud or in your mind, asking Me specifically to help. Even when you don't know what specifics to pray for, you can still acknowledge Me and ask Me for help, then let My Spirit pray through you so that I can intervene and help in the situation.

Only when that happens, when you take your prayerful spirit a step further and actually call on Me and your spirit helpers, can we come to your aid. Of course, when you don't put your prayers into words, I still do what I can--but it's pitifully little compared to when you call on Me and others and thereby allow Me to fully release My power on your behalf.

Even seeking My voice of prophecy and hearing from Me for guidance and instruction about what you should do to help a situation is not enough without intercessory prayer. The two work hand in hand. I will gladly speak to you and give My words of comfort and encouragement and instruction for others through your channel, as well as show you how you can help them. Yet without entrusting the situation to My hands through fervent intercessory prayer, even coming to Me for guidance and asking what "you" can do to help can turn out to be leaning too much on your own arm of flesh and your own works. You can hear from Me and I'll tell you what you can do, and though you follow through and do what you are able to do in the physical, if this is all you're doing, it's leaning to your own arm. I am pleased that

you follow through, but you must take this a step further than only doing what you can do. If this is not also accompanied by intercessory prayer, if you are not committing the situation to Me, if you are not praying and interceding for the situation, asking Me to work the miracle and do the things which you cannot do, then you're leaning too much on your own arm of the flesh. (14)

Praises of faith are almost always used in connection with intercessory prayer, and are one of the most powerful uses of the weapon of praise. Those praises acknowledge My ability to do anything and everything that you request, and do it in the best way possible, and you pump up your faith and stand on it through your praises.

The old quote says, "Faith knows that God will do it, and He does!" and now your arsenal has been expanded to include the ability to praise Me for performing your request before you have even seen it in the physical. This is one of the highest levels of appropriating faith. You're taking the action of thanking Me for answering your prayer even before I have done so, which shows that you have the kind of faith that will get the needed results.

Praising Me for answers before you see them also helps your prayers to be more focused, direct, and specific, because praising Me for the answer forces you to visualize the answer coming to pass, which helps you to target your prayers and even to target your faith and what you expect of Me. There's a big difference between just praying that someone will be healed, and thanking Me that that person is healed and able to walk normally again, or eat normally again, or resume their normal duties with full strength, or whatever it is they need. Seeing them in your mind's eye being able to do those things again, and seeing them being able to utilize the results of your prayer gives you the right kind of force in prayer that moves My power on your behalf, and brings the direct specific answers you need.

Don't forget too that you should not only praise Me for the ways you would like to see Me fulfill the answer to your request, but that you should also praise Me that no matter what happens, I'm taking care of the situation in the best way possible, and I'm in control. Praise Me for the good fruit of the trial or affliction. Praise Me for the opportunities to witness that some difficulties bring you. Praise Me for the strengthening of your spirits. Praise Me for always answering. As you start praising Me for the good that I can and will bring out of any situation according to your faith, you will begin to see My hand at work. You will begin to understand and know what to claim in prayer. You'll have a sense in your heart of what things I might want to see accomplished, and you'll gain the faith to ask Me for the full answer, the full blessing, the very best that I want to give you.

You need to see praise prayers as not only a gesture of goodwill and thanks to

Me, but as an essential part of your being able to pray the right kind of prayers and have the right kind of faith. The more you incorporate praises into your prayers, the more specific answers you'll see. Praise makes Me happy and it moves My hand, but part of the reason is that praise also motivates you, encourages you, and causes you to stretch your faith beyond the supplication and toward the fulfillment, which is a very important aspect of receiving My answers. <sup>(15)</sup>

## Call on the Keys of Consecration, Commitment, and Focus

Claim the keys of consecration that you may give yourselves to Me fully. Lay your hearts open before Me. When your hearts are open before Me and you lay your all at My feet, holding nothing back, fearing nothing, then I am able to empower you in a wonderful way. You become superhuman, possessing strength, resolve and faith beyond human capabilities. You are linked to Me in yieldedness, and we are one. This is the state where you can be the most effective in your prayers.

If you're holding something back or if your heart is not clean and right before Me, you prevent your spirit from merging with Mine, and so you lack the power that you could otherwise possess.

So take a moment now to call on the keys of consecration. Ask Me to give you strength to lay everything--your lives, your Homes, your loved ones, your possessions, your desires, your ministries, your future, your plans--at My feet.

When you do this, it reminds you that I am the great God of the universe! I have all power! I rule! Your yieldedness in putting everything in My hands not only links you to Me and gives you greater power, but it increases your faith exponentially, because you remember that I am indeed the One in control.

It puts you in a position in the spirit where your prayers are far more effective and on-target, for you are fully aware that My will is what is best, and you have full faith that I am able to perform My will.

It also effectively blocks out the Enemy's thoughts, fears, worries, and distractions. You have just given everything to Me, so there's nothing he can use against you to pull you away or distract you from your mission of fighting in prayer. Claim the keys of consecration, My loves, and be fully Mine.

Claim the keys of commitment-commitment to keep fighting this battle in the spirit, no matter how weary you feel. It's true that fighting in prayer takes something out of you. It's a spiritual effort, and I don't blame you for sometimes feeling a bit weary or worn out, or like you've just worked hard.

But remember that the Enemy also loves to exaggerate those feelings and make you feel that you just don't have the strength to carry on, or you don't want to have the strength to carry on. That's where you must rebuke him in the power of the

keys, and hold tight to the power of the keys of commitment--calling on them to give you the perseverance in the spirit to keep fighting until the battle is won. Claim the keys of commitment to the spiritual warfare, and then fight, fight! Keep interceding until you hear the victory!

Claim the keys of focus, so that you can direct your prayers accurately and that they will hit the mark in the spirit. If you focus with your spiritual senses, I am able to punch through and bring to mind important details that you would never have thought of or known or become aware of otherwise--details which could mean the difference between a quick victory or a long, drawn-out battle; a speedy resolution or a more roundabout solution; a victorious soldier or a wounded casualty.

So focus with your spiritual senses. Put yourself in the shoes of the people and situations you're praying for. Concentrate your prayer power on them, and watch Me bring to mind the specific things that they're struggling with, the specifics that need prayer, the aspects which are most in need of spiritual power and push. Claim the keys of focus, and I will empower you.

My loves, it's the day of greater miracles. In order for greater miracles to be manifested, you must be honing and improving your intercessory prayer skills, for it all ties together. There are times when, in order for a miracle to be performed, it's not enough for those on the scene to be desperate with Me and have the faith for itat times it takes the reinforcements of someone interceding on their behalf as well. And that is your job, My loves--the interceding. You never know when I want to do a miracle in a certain situation and when I wait on you to put forth the spiritual effort needed to bring it to pass.

Thank you for being willing to pray and fight for these situations. I depend on you, and that is why I continue to place such great importance on times of intercessory prayer--because they bring such great results in the spirit. <sup>(16)</sup>

- 1. Solutions for Shepherds, Parents and Everyone! #3389:9, 10, 12
- 2. Action Through Prayer--Part 1 #3319:71-73
- 3. Action Through Prayer--Part 2 #3325:63-67
- 4. Sharing the Love, Part 1 #3781:75
- 5. Action Through Prayer--Part 4 #3340:95-97
- 6. Action Through Prayer--Part 5 #3414:123-130
- 7. When You Pray, Things Happen! #3173:12, 15-18
- 8. Action Through Prayer--Part 2 #3325:82-86
- 9. Sharing the Love, Part 2 #3782:70-84
- 10. When You Pray, Things Happen! #3173:60-63
- 11. Action Through Prayer--Part 2 #3325:68-73
- 12. When You Pray, Things Happen! #3173:33-43

- 13. When You Pray, Things Happen! #3173:53-56
- 14. Action Through Prayer--Part 1 #3319:28-31
- 15. The Art Of War Part 2 #3533:151-155
- 16. Praise Your Way to Victory! #3449:68-80