# Life Group Notes

## Lord, teach us to pray

## 8. Intercession

These notes are designed to be used in Life Groups alongside the Sunday teaching at Wavertree.

This week we explored the practice of intercession: praying on behalf of others. Jesus invites us to ask, seek, and knock, and throughout Scripture we see God choosing to work through the prayers of His people. You might want to begin the time by sharing what stood out from Prince's talk on the 1st November.

**INTRO: 10 minutes**

- When someone says "intercession," what comes to mind?
- Have you ever seen a specific answer to prayer for someone else?

***"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."***

***1 Tim 2:1-2***

**COME AND PRAY**

**Intercession is not just for a few specially gifted people. Under the new covenant, every believer is invited to pray for others. We are called to pray for all people, including leaders, friends, and even those we struggle with. Intercession is how the church takes responsibility for the world around it.**

1. Who do you naturally find easy or more difficult to pray for? Why?
2. What might change if we saw prayer as "taking responsibility" for the world around us?

3. Take a piece of paper a write
   - Someone I love - Someone I'm concerned about - Someone I find difficult

4. Reflect - where is God calling you to pray consistently rather than occasionally?

## STAND AND STAY

**Moses interceded for Israel in Ex 32. He says God these are your people, have mercy for your glory and God chose to respond. God loves to keep His good promises and he loves to show mercy. He wants us to ask. Many breakthroughs in Scripture came through persistent prayer. Abraham, Moses, Daniel, and the early church all continued praying when answers weren't immediate.**

1. Have you ever been tempted to stop praying for something because nothing seemed to be happening?
2. Why do you think persistence matters in prayer?

3. As a group sahre, or take time to quitely reflect and write down:

- Prayers God answered quickly -Prayers still waiting for -Prayers answered differently than expected

4. Ask God, What is one situation where God may be asking you to "stand and stay" rather than give up?

## SPIRIT LEAD THE WAY

**In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. Romans 8:26-27**

Sometimes we don't know what to pray. Rather than being a failure, this can be an invitation to surrender and allow the Holy Spirit to guide us.

1. Have you ever felt stuck in prayer?
2. How does it encourage you to know the Spirit helps us pray?
3. What is the difference between praying from anxiety and praying with the Spirit's help?
4. How can we create more space to listen in prayer?

# Practical activity for this week

**In Colossians 1:9-11 Paul's prayer gives us a powerful template for intercession for any individual.**

**Clarity -** Fill them with the knowledge of Your will.
**Integrity -** Help them live a life worthy of You.
**Fruitfulness -** Let their life bear lasting fruit.
**Resilience -** Strengthen them with endurance and patience.

This week:

- Name one person on your heart.
- Name one leader or situation to pray for.
- Choose one prayer from Colossians 1:9-11.
- Set aside a specific time to "stay and pray."