

Heaven's Intervention | CL Talks Episode 8

Pastor Al Brice | Wednesday, May 6th

A friend, coworker, family or congregational member is diagnosed with a disease or any kind of sickness. Someone in your family or you know desperately needs Jesus, but rejects your concern and sharing and continues down a path of deception and destruction. A nation, a city, a neighborhood, or educational systems, begins to deteriorate morally because its leaders and people follow their own evil ways.

BUT WHAT CAN YOU/WE DO?

So often, our problems or the problems of people we know seem to be so big at times, that we feel overwhelmed and very inadequate, within our power or means, to do something about it. It's times and issues like these that we need to turn to our Heavenly Father with intercessory prayer.

Hebrews 10:19-23 NLT : And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water. Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.

I. WHAT IS INTERCESSION?

Intercession is prayer that appeals to God for your needs and the needs of others based upon His Word and Promises that have been established and given to us through the blood of Jesus and our Heavenly Father's oath.

Hebrews 6:17-19 (Amplified Bible): In the same way God, in His desire to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable nature of His purpose, intervened and guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things [His promise and His oath] in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled [to Him] for refuge would have strong encouragement and indwelling strength to hold tightly to the hope set before us. This hope [this confident assurance] we have as an anchor of the soul [it cannot slip and it cannot break down under whatever pressure bears upon it]—a safe and steadfast hope that enters within the veil [of the heavenly temple, that most Holy Place in which the very presence of God dwells],

A. Intercession involves taking hold of God's will, bringing it to Him, and refusing to let go until His will comes to pass.

1 John 5:14-15 (Amplified Bible): This is the [remarkable degree of] confidence which we [as believers are entitled to] have before Him: that if we ask anything according to His will, [that is, consistent with His plan and purpose] He hears us. And if we know [for a fact, as indeed we do] that He hears and listens to us in whatever we ask, we [also] know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that we have [granted to us] the requests which we have asked from Him.

1. Praying His Will involves two important principles in intercessory prayer.

a. Praying in your understanding and praying in the spirit (praying in tongues).

1 Corinthians 14:15 NLT: Well then, what shall I do? I will pray in the spirit, and I will also pray in words I understand. I will sing in the spirit, and I will also sing in words I understand.

b. Interceding in my understanding is praying God's Word.

- Example: Salvation of someone, the promise

1 Timothy 2:1-4 NLT: I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.

- Use your keys of authority

Matthew 16:19 NKJV; Mark 3:27 NKJV : No one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. And then he will plunder his house.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to bring conviction into their minds, to reveal Truth to them, and to draw them to Jesus.

John 16:8 NKJV: And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment...

- Ask the Father to send laborers across their path.

Matthew 9:36-38 NKJV: But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

c. Pray in the spirit for them, which means praying in tongues, interceding in the spirit with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Why Pray In Tongues?

1 Corinthians 14:2 Amplified: For one who speaks in an unknown tongue does not speak to people but to God; for no one understands him or catches his meaning, but by the Spirit he speaks mysteries [secret truths, hidden things].

1 Corinthians 14:14 (Amplified Bible - AMP): For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unproductive [because it does not understand what my spirit is praying].

NEXT WEDNESDAY: Spiritual Warfare: Praying in the Spirit.