

Introduction:

Intercession becomes effective when intercessors are in true alignment with both God and their local church. If an intercessor is out of alignment with God and out of alignment with the protocols of their local assembly their prayers will be in useless.

Intercession is also positional; this position is called "standing in the gap". Just by being in our proper position is a weapon against the enemy. <u>James 4:7</u>.

What does it mean to be in proper alignment? To be in alignment means:

- 1. To bring into the correct position or place
- 2. To arrange in its proper place
- 3. To be in the proper place mentally, emotionally and spiritually

How are we then expected to align ourselves effective for intercession?

- We must first be individually aligned with God and His word. This has to do with the lifestyle of the intercessor.
- 2. Secondly, we must also be in **corporate alignment** with the place we are assigned to. This has to do with the support and serving of the mission and vision in the local assembly of the intercessor.

Here, we can now clearly see that the ministry of intercession is not just limited to prayer. It includes a lifestyle of submission to God and submission to our local vision in order for it to be truly effective.

Proper Alignment With God:

As individual intercessors we must be in proper alignment with God and His word. This means that we are expected to live a life of complete obedience to the word of God and we are to

have a habitual practice of being truly led by The Holy Spirit. This includes a lifestyle of personal bible study, an active prayer life and set apart times of fasting. We must have a life committed to holy living and our minds regularly renewed by the word of God. **Romans 12:1-2.**

Proper Alignment To Our Local Church's Mission And Vision:

How can two walk together if they are not in agreement? <u>Amos 3:3.</u> Satan knows that when we are united in hearts and service that The Lord will command His blessings on our church, <u>Psalm 133:1-3.</u> So to be in proper alignment with where God has placed us requires actual work and the right heart posture.

It means we are expected to be:

- 1. Submitted to our leadership.
- 2. Supportive of the vision and mission and loyal to the core values of the house.

You cannot be effective in intercession and correctly align with a house that you don't' support or serve in. We are expected to serve in both prayer and auxiliaries and we are expected to support with our time, effort and our resources.

What Happens When We Get In Proper Alignment?

- 1. Demons flee, **James 4:7**
- 2. We experience corporate victory **Exodus 17:11-14** (strategic alignment)
- 3. We experience the power, the glory and the blessings of God. See <u>Acts 2:1-2, Psalm 133:1-3, 2 Chronicles 5:11-14 NLT & KJV</u>,

What Happens When We Are Not In Proper Alignment?

When we are not individually aligned with God and our local house, Satan capitalizes on our personal weaknesses to bring destruction and disgrace to us and those we are connected to. See the case study of Achan in **Joshua 7**, his personal lust caused him and his family death and denied Israel of their appointed victory.

In the case study of King David, we saw how Satan trapped him in a moment of weakness because he was out of alignment. See <u>2 Samuel 11:1-27</u>. Eventually this led to a consequence where the sword never left his house. In <u>2 Samuel 12:9-11</u> because King David stepped out of alignment it brought disgrace and sorrow to his house.

CONCLUSION:

We need to be in proper alignment with both God and our local house in order to be truly effective in intercession. This requires us to live a life of personal holiness before God in addition to serving and supporting the vision of our local church with our time, effort and resources.

When we are in true alignment we will experience victory over our enemies and the blessings, power and glory of God will fill our lives.

To remain in proper alignment, we have to be intentional about guarding our hearts against rebellion, gossiping, bitterness and pride.

Lastly, when we are in proper alignment we can help to brings others in proper alignment as well. See **2 Corinthians 10:3-6 AMP**.



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