

## The Loneliness Of An Intercessor Selected Scripture.

Interceding for others is a lonely task. The people you pray for may not even know that you are praying for them. They may have no idea that you are pleading for them and their needs before the Father's throne of grace (**Hebrews 4:16**). And, it may seem that your intercession is having no effect in the person's life. Throughout the history of the church, intercessors have endured loneliness, despair, and discouragement. Praying for others calls you to do something that most people do not understand. How can you work through the loneliness, the frustration, and the discouragement that often comes with intercession? The following are some keys to help you work through these things that can hinder and even cripple your intercession for others:

- I. *Realize that God understands how you feel.* The Lord Jesus Christ is the greatest intercessor of all (**Hebrews 7:25**). He understands what it means to intercede for others. No one else may understand your struggles in prayer, but Jesus Christ does. He is right there in the midst of the late nights and early mornings of prayer (**Hebrews 13:5**). He hears every prayer; He sees every tear (**2 Kings 20:5; Psalm 56:8**). He loves you and delights in you (**Psalm 18:19**).
- II. *Keep love as the source of your motivation.* We pray because we know that God answers prayer and because we want to see God's will done on earth. Yet, your love for the people you pray for should motivate you to continue to continue in your intercession. **1 Corinthians 13** is the love chapter of the Bible. When it gets difficult to intercede, read this chapter. Recall the love that you have for the person and the desire that you have to see him or her blessed, changed, saved, or healed. Even if you do not know the person, your love for others and the desire to see them blessed by God should motivate you to continue to pray.
- III. *Don't focus on the present pain, but look to the end result.* **Hebrews 12:1-3** reveals that we are to focus on the finish and not on the pain of the race. The same is true when you are praying for a person. In intercession, we must not be overwhelmed with the frustration, the loneliness, and the desperation. We must look in faith to what God is doing in the life of the person for whom we are praying.
- IV. *Rejoice in the character that God is producing in you through your intercession.* It is true that God blesses and uses our praying for others. However, He also works in your life when you pray. As you pray for others, God changes you!
- V. *Remember that God values your intercession.* Those you pray for may never know that you have prayed for them and they may not value your intercession

in their behalf. Yet, God values your intercession. It is the way that God has chosen to work in this world. God accomplishes His will in the lives of people through intercession. He has chained His purpose to the prayers of His people.