



Part 3: Intercessory Prayer

Scripture: Romans 8:34; Ephesians 3:12; Matthew 28:18; Colossians 1:13; 1 John 4:4, John 8:44

1. Practice what this series has been leading us to begin trying. Pause for 60 seconds as everyone settles into the small group time. Ask, “Father, what is it that you are bringing to my attention right now?”. Three people share.
2. When was the last time you shared something hard and someone said, “*I’ll be praying for you*” or “*thoughts and prayers*” and you hoped for something more? What were you hoping for?
3. Have you ever felt like “*thoughts and prayers*” became more of a phrase than a real spiritual practice? Why do you think that happens?
4. Intercessory prayer is praying **on behalf of another person or group**. It means stepping into a situation through prayer with God, on behalf of someone else, with the goal of moving things, changing things, and affecting outcomes.
 - a. Read Romans 8:34 out loud.
 - b. What comes to mind when you hear that Jesus is praying for you right now?
5. Read Ephesians 3:12 out loud.
 - a. What does it mean to you personally to have the same “access” to our Father in heaven that Jesus has, as a son or daughter, rather than approaching as a stranger?
6. Read Matthew 28:18 out loud.
 - a. In the message, Jamey talks about praying with Jesus’ authority, not our own. What’s the difference between those two approaches?
 - b. Why do we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, our King?
7. Which part of the “two kingdoms” explanation connected most with you or challenged you?

8. Read Colossians 1:13 out loud.
 - a. How have you seen the effects of the “kingdom of darkness” show up in everyday life, relationships, or culture?
9. Read 1 John 4:4 out loud. The wifi extender analogy describes followers of Jesus as sharing in His access and authority, extending God’s kingdom into places where it isn’t fully experienced yet.
 - a. Where do you feel called to “extend the signal” right now?
10. Read John 8:44. Jesus says the enemy’s primary weapon is lies.
 - a. What are some common lies people believe about God or themselves today?
11. Jamey emphasized praying FOR people and AGAINST the enemy—not against people themselves. Why is that distinction important?
12. Who in your life right now needs intercessory prayer the most, and what specifically can you begin praying for them this week?
13. What would it look like for our group/church/community to become people who regularly pray “prayers that work”?

Go Further. You can pray:

- For **God’s Will (Matt 6:10)**: Pray that God’s kingdom would come and his will be done in a person’s life, decisions, problems, and opportunities. That’s always your fallback. But the more you know God’s will the more specifically you can pray. For example, you can pray
- For **Life** – to live life and life to the fullest (**John 10:10**)
- For Them to experience **God’s Love (Eph 3:18–19)**
- For **Direction (Prov 3:5-6)**
- For **Freedom (Gal 5:1)**
- For **Healing (Js 5:14-15)**
- For **Fruitfulness (John 15:8)**
- For **Excellence (Col 3:23)**
- For **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Gal 5:22-23**