

## Prayer Focus – The Prayer of Intercession

September, 2025

Greetings, in Jesus' name, Empower Church! Paul teaching the church of Ephesus through the unction of Holy Spirit gave us our foundational scripture in Ephesians 6:18 AMPC; Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose and perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people). It is important as we continue the discovery of the different kinds of prayer, that we realize that studying prayer is much different than praying. Yes, on one hand, to be effective in prayer, we need to be aware of all the types of prayer the Word reveals. But, on the other hand, when we pray, we should never take matters into our own hands deciding intellectually which type of prayer to utter. Our Father never intended for us to be clinical or rigid concerning prayer. Pray from your heart! Relax! Your spirit man which is born again knows the leading of Holy Spirit, and He knows what prayer will get the job done. Prayer operates very similar to the gifts of Holy Spirit. The gifts are taught individually but, they rarely, if ever, operate singularly. So, do not over think it. Just pray! Continuing with our study of prayer, we will now look at the Prayer of Intercession. Just like the **Prayer of Supplication** has the key ingredient of <u>desire or intensity</u>, the **Prayer of Intercession** also has a key ingredient. *Love* is the key driving force in this kind of prayer. All prayer of course, is faith-filled, and fueled by love, but this prayer is motivated by a love so strong that it will cause you to stand in the gap for someone who, through fear, has an opening in their hedge of protection. Through the Prayer of Intercession love covers a multitude of sins, thus perfect love casts out fear (1 John 4:18 NLT)! Oh, what yielding to the depth of the Father's eternal love through the Prayer of Intercession can accomplish! Ezekiel 22:30 KJV reveals to us that the Lord is actively looking for intercessors.

And <u>I sought for a man</u> among them, who should make up the hedge, and <u>stand in the gap</u> before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

God is seeking for someone to stand in the gap or opening of the hedge of protection surrounding those in Christ and even the lost, because <u>God can do nothing unless someone</u> <u>asks Him</u>. Jesus, our Great High Priest who lives to make intercessions for us, stood in the gap for Peter when He prayed that Peter's own faith fail not (Hebrews 7:25 NASB1995/TPT; Luke 22:31-32 AMPC/ TPT). What is this hedge Ezekiel was talking about? In the Websters 1828 Dictionary hedge is defined as; to obstruct with a hedge, or obstruct in any manner. It is also

defined as; to surround for defense. What does this supernatural defense surrounding the believer look like? Satan describes this hedge that was about Job in Job 1:10 AMPC; Satan makes his case before God, "Have You not put a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have conferred prosperity and happiness upon him in the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land." What Satan is describing is revealed in Deuteronomy 28:1-14 AMPC! The hedge is The Blessing! The first verse gives insight for walking in the blessing: if you hear and obey His commands all these blessings will come upon you. Deuteronomy 28:15 AMPC reveals that doing and being right in our own eyes creates an open door for the curse to have access to our lives. But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord God, being watchful to do all his commandments and His statutes which I command you this day, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you. Yes, the blessing has been commanded upon our lives but we sometimes yield to fear instead of holding fast to our faith in God. Trusting in God and His Words causes the blessing to flow freely and effortlessly but fear thoughts can lead to fear words that result in fear actions that create gaps in the blessing. The enemy is always coming with lies to steal, kill and destroy but the Lord came to bring life in abundance till it overflows (John 10:10 AMPC). Job 3:25 AMPC clearly says what produced this gap; For the thing which I greatly feared comes upon me, and that of which I am afraid befalls me. Fear penetrated Job's life by entertaining the voice of the adversary instead of attending to the voice of the Word. The Lord is looking for those who are filled with compassion and determination to seal up the breaches on behalf of others. He is calling His children to lift up the standard (the Word of God) over the enemy until God's love can break through (Isaiah 59:19 AMPC). Looking at the bad decisions of others can lead to criticism and only permits the devil to wreak havoc in someone's life. Do your part by being a blessing: stand fast and resist the enemy's maneuvers because so many need the Prayer of Intercession. Again, what does 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 AMPC say? Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily. It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]. It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail. Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]. Love never fails [never fades out or comes to an end].

Philippians 1:9-11 AMP/TPT, Scott and Jackie