Intercessory prayer is praying for others. Believers have the privilege of inviting God to intervene in someone’s life in a positive way through prayer. The Bible is filled with powerful verses that can be prayed for you and your loved ones. We know the Word of God changes the heart of man. This week’s study walks through intercession and offers you the opportunity to identify important scriptures to pray over your children, your loved ones and yourself.

1. Read Hebrews 7:25; 1 Timothy 2:1; Romans 8:26 and Romans 8:34.

Who is interceding for us before God?

For whom are we instructed to intercede?

2. What situations and concerns are on your heart regarding your children? What situations and concerns are on your heart regarding your loved ones? What situations and concerns are on your heart regarding yourself? Do you have specific prayer requests for them? Make a list.
3. Do you pray for requests for your children or loved ones that you aren’t sure are even God’s will for them? *Lord, let him get into “this” college. End the relationship with “this” girlfriend. Don’t let him choose “that” career.* It is easy to pray for outcomes we want to happen rather than seeking God’s best for them. Sometimes we mistake praying our will for God’s will. Has this been true for you? What instruction does 1 John 5:14 give us for our prayers?

4. When we pray in accordance with God’s will, we have the assurance He hears and answers us. What other instruction are we given regarding prayer in James 1:5-6?

5. What truths are contained in the verses below that challenge you to pray God’s Word over yourself or others?

   - Hebrews 4:12
   - Jeremiah 23:29
   - Isaiah 55:11
   - 2 Timothy 3:16-17

6. Read Matthew 4:1-11. How did Jesus respond when tempted in the wilderness?
7. Read **Matthew 20:29-34.** Pay special attention to verse 32. How can you be more specific in prayer?

8. Consider the following circumstances and concerns. Choose the ones you would like to begin interceding for on behalf of your children, a loved one and yourself. These are only a few to get you started. Add any others that come to mind.

   - **Salvation** *(Romans 10:9; John 3:16)*
   - **Love for God’s Word** *(Psalm 119:105)*
   - **Courage** *(Deuteronomy 31:6)*
   - **Honesty** *(Proverbs 12:22)*
   - **Good friends** *(Proverbs 13:20)*
   - **Attitude** *(James 1:19)*
   - **Self-control** *(Galatians 5:22-23)*
   - **Purity** *(Psalm 51:10)*
   - **Words** *(Ephesians 4:29)*
   - **Gratitude** *(Ephesians 5:20; Colossians 2:7)*

9. Now write the scripture(s) you chose as a prayer. Below is an example of how you can use God’s Word for your child. Keep this list (and other scriptures you added) in sight this week.

   **Example:** Praying for good friends

   Proverbs 13:20 — Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

   Lord, help my child, __________, to choose wise friends so he will become wise. Keep him from selecting friends who make foolish choices and potentially lead him into harm.
10. **Read Matthew 18:19-20; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 and Galatians 6:2.**

   Based on these verses, how is praying with someone or with a group beneficial to you?

   What are some practical ways that praying with another benefits you?

11. What has God shown you through the study of intercessory prayer? How will this change your prayer life?

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**Father, Your Word is alive and active. It is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that I may be equipped for every good work. I pray Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Help me to lead my children to Your heart as I pray Your Word over them. Amen.**

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**Notes for Small Group Discussion:**

1. Briefly share your thoughts on the video.
2. Briefly talk about spiritual concepts you learned.
3. Share with your group a choice you need to make that will honor God.
4. Consider practical ways to find accountability with these truths.

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