

***Petitioning the King***

***Intercession***

With Susan Shepherd, USA Country Coordinator of Moms in Prayer International

To view the accompanying video, go to [MomsinPrayer.org/bible-study](https://momsinprayer.org/resources/prayer-tools/bible-study/)

***Group Discussion Question****: How often do you intercede for someone else? Who do you intercede for the most?*

1. In the video, Susan tells us intercession means that we approach the One who has power and authority in order to make a request for someone else. God is the all-powerful, all-knowing One whom we approach, and we come to Him in prayer. We come to Him in faith through Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Let’s look at a few verses about this.

Verses: 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Is there anything or anyone you cannot pray about? What should the attitude of our hearts be?

List some of the benefits of praying for those in leadership.

Lift up a prayer of thanksgiving for the lavish gift of prayer secured through Christ.

1. Prayer brings us into the throne room of God. And it puts whomever we are praying for there with us, whether they know it or not. The word intercede means to stand in the gap. One way of understanding intercession is to imagine “standing in the gap,” between a person and God. Jesus, of course, is the one who stood in that gap and connected people with God through his death on the cross. He and the Holy Spirit intercede on our behalf before God. “Let us, therefore, come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4:16.

 Have you ever experienced a time when the Holy Spirit led you to pray in ways or for things or at times that were unexpected? What happened?

1. Have you had a conversation with someone who is “listening” to you, but they are on their phone or doing a task? Did you feel they were distracted and only partly paying attention? Not a single prayer slips by God. He is never too busy or distracted to truly listen to you. God heard you ten years ago, and He heard you last week. He hears you right now, and He’s already listening for you tomorrow. In fact, He’s listening so well, He already knows what you’re going to say! (Psalm 139:4) When you pray dear sister, believe in your heart God is listening, because He is. You can trust Him for the right answer because He loves you. (Psalm 66:20) Let’s look at how the Bible tells us God is listening as we talk with Him. What encouragement or reassurance do you receive from these Scriptures? What do they have in common? How are they different?

 Psalm 116:1-2

 1 John 5:14

 Psalm 55:16-17

 Psalm 10:17

 Jonah 2:2

1. In 1 Kings 8, Solomon dedicates the temple of the Lord in prayer. Read verses 8:28-29 and compare them to Isaiah 43:6b-7and 1 Corinthians 3:16. How has the Lord faithfully listened and answered Solomon’s prayer even today for His Name and dwelling place? What do these Scriptures teach you? What has God done for you so that today this prayer is answered in your life?
2. One of the greatest struggles encountered by many of God’s people is prayer. Our three deadly enemies, being the world, our own flesh, and the devil are all involved in keeping us away from this divine discipline. Even in the midst of our times of prayer, any or a combination of these enemies, can rise up to distract us from fellowship with the Lord.

 How will you seek the Lord to combat these distractions?

 What ideas or instructions has He already given you?

 What is holding you back from exercising them?

What do you learn from the following verses which may help you in taking your thoughts captive to make them obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5)?

 Mark 1:35

 1 Thessalonians 5:17

 Ephesians 6:18

 1 Peter 5:8-9

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