3 Basic Types of Prayers

**Experience intercessory prayer by knocking on a door God has told you He wants to open**

**Monday**

Read Luke 2:22-35, Ephesians 1:17, James 5;16

* *Simeon was an intercessor. The characteristics of someone who intercedes for others is receiving God’s righteousness (instead of manufacturing your own), devoting yourself to God, hearing from God, and waiting on the Holy Spirit. Journalize your thoughts after reading these scriptures.*

**Tuesday**

Read Romans 8:26-27, Hebrews 7:25, Romans 8:34, 2 Thessalonians 2:7

* *Jesus himself is interceding for you, so the Holy Spirit through us also intercedes for other people. Remember that to intercede, it to intervene and to intervene is to interfere with evil in other’s lives. Spend time meditating on these scriptures.*

**Wednesday**

Read 2 Corinthians 1:5, Colossians 1:24, Romans 8:17, Philippians 3:10, 1 Peter 4:13, 2 Timothy 1:8, 2 Timothy 2:10, Colossians 4:12, Romans 15:30, Colossians 2:1

* *To intercede for those you care for can cause you to suffer. Spend some time today willingly suffering along side those you are praying for.*

**Thursday**

Read 1 Kings 18:1, 1 Kings 18:41-46

* *Spend some time today asking God to show you what ‘door’ He wants to open for you. Over the coming days as He shows you what He wants to do, begin to knock on that door by interceding with the Holy Spirit.*

**Friday**

Read Acts 16

* *Set some time aside today to continue to intercede under God’s direction.*

3 Basic Types of Prayers - Part 3

Yongi Cho book "Prayer: the key to revival"

Matthew 7:7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

**1. The prayer of petition - Ask and it will be given to you**

**2. The prayer of devotion - seek and you will find**

**3. The prayer of intercession - knock and the door will be opened**

Luke 2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous

Righteous - He had found and received God’s righteousness, no longer seeking his own righteousness which results in either pride, condemnation and guilt

James 5:16 The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

and devout.

Devout - devoted to God, has made the divine exchange as a result of God’s sanctification

He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him.

Waiting - a lifestyle, no longer pushing God, or pulling God but waiting on God.  This activity is evidence of trust and hope. This doesn’t mean that Simeon was distracted or lazy.  Waiting means that you are completely enjoying being with God, growing in God, know God more during the waiting period.

* to receive to oneself.  **As we wait we receive in a spiritual sense the thing we are waiting on physically**.  We live, act, talk, enjoy God’s promise before we actually have it.
* Welcome and receiving, activity waiting, expectant, ready and willing to receive, looking for and waiting

Consolidation - encouragement and comfort, an urging by someone who is close beside (personal urging), a personal exhortation that delivers the evidence that stands up in God’s court.

paraklesis - the Holy Spirit is described in John 14:16,26 as the Paraclete - advocate, comforter, exhorter - God is not our referee, He is our coach…He is on our side, He consoles us, comforts us and gets onto us!

The Holy Spirit was on him - Do you want more of the Holy Spirit to be in you and on you?

**Matthew 13:12 New International Version (NIV)**

**12**Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

No-fail spiritual principle:  Use, treasure, guard, hold onto what God has given you, and God will give you more in abundance.

Honor the Holy Spirit, be aware of the Holy Spirit, talk to the Holy Spirit, Listen to the Holy Spirit, obey the Holy Spirit,

26It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.

God reveals things to you, Simeon had vision - once you have vision you can intercede.  You don’t just go knocking on every door for it to open, you proceed to the door that God has told you He wants to open.  You need divine revelation.

**Ephesians 1:17 New International Version (NIV)**

**17**I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

27Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required,

Move by the Spirit - carried by the Holy Spirit, live lightweight so you can be carried or moved by the Holy Spirit (get rid of everything that entangles and the sin that weighs you down).

The entry point is narrow, the path is narrow.  You have to unload yourself to enter in.  Half of our life is spent unloading our selfish selves and living in the new self that God has for us.  How do you get rid of yourself so you can be light enough for the Spirit to carry you?  REPENTANCE!  …desire to soar, desire to be fleet-footed, desire to find the secret, narrow paths of God’s freedom that everyone else seems to overlook!

Simeon prayed for what God showed him He wanted to do!

This is called intercession - pray for the door to be opened.

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Romans 8:34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Intercede - original latin this had a stronger meaning

in the strongest sense…to intervene.

Addiction intervention - You go as a group to the place where the addict is and insist on removing them to a safe place of rehabilitation.

If you are intervening aren’t you interfering???

When President Reagan was shot there was a secret service agent, Tim McCarthy who spread himself in front of the president and took a bullet in his chest.  That is intercession, that is intervention, that is interfering

2 Thessalonians 2:7 For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

I am getting more and more comfortable confronting folks who are headed in the wrong direction and talking them.  Why?  Because I love and care for them and I don’t want their lives to be destroyed, nor do I want them to fall into the dullness of complacency.  I am interceding for them.

BUT…intercession has to be spirit-lead.

I remember waking up one night and praying for this pastor that I knew was struggling with pornography.  I was interceding for him, intervening for him spiritually, defending him from his own vices.

Scene 1 - He was talking about his church explaining his different services

Scene 2 - at the pool he came down and I could see lust on him

Scene 3 - I prayed for him at the alter

Scene 4 - Intercession in the middle of the night

Scene 5 - I see him the next year and he is a different person

Cho: ‘we become a partaker in Christ’s sufferings’

2 Corinthians 1:5 For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.

Colossians 1:24 Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.

When we pray for family, friends, our struggling Christian brothers and sisters, we suffer!

The agony of interceding for someone to turn the corner, to accept God’s grace, to exchange their old life for Christ’s new life is suffering.

We keep going back to God, pleading for them, asking for them, begging for them…this is what Paul meant when he said I am suffering for you.

Was Christ’s suffering inadequate or incomplete??? NO!  But there is suffering yet to come as God’s people slowly and sometimes painfully agree to conform to the image of Christ…consent to die to their old self to their new self.  Our prayerful intercession for them can be painful.

Romans 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God. —->Knocks on the right door!

**1 Kings 18:1**

After a long time, in the third year, the word of the Lord came to Elijah: “Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the land.”

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**41**And Elijah said to Ahab, “Go, eat and drink, for there is the sound of a heavy rain.” **42**So Ahab went off to eat and drink, but Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees.

**43**“Go and look toward the sea,” he told his servant. And he went up and looked.

“There is nothing there,” he said.

Seven times Elijah said, “Go back.”

**44**The seventh time the servant reported, “A cloud as small as a man’s hand is rising from the sea.”

So Elijah said, “Go and tell Ahab, ‘Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.’”

**45**Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain started falling and Ahab rode off to Jezreel. **46**The power of the Lord came on Elijah and, tucking his cloak into his belt, he ran ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel.

To intercede you need to hear from God first.  We don’t want to knock on the wrong door.  God will show us which door He wants to open.

First, ask and learn to open our heart to God

Second, seek God and devote your heart to God

THEN, you will begin to have the Holy Spirit lead you in intercessory prayer.

Elijah gets alone and waits on the Lord.  He does so expectantly given that he sends his servant to look out for the answer.  He watched, he waited and he listened (‘I hear the sound of a heavy rain’).

Elijah was described as squatting down with his face between his knees.  Possibly exemplifying the birthing processes.  Through intercession we are birching the will of God into this world.