

**October 24-30, 2009**

**STANDING IN THE GAP IN PRAYER**

In this lesson you will learn what it means to stand in the gap for someone else in prayer and the characteristics of an intercessor.

- I. What it means to stand in the gap.
  - A. Ezekiel 22:30 – “So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.”
    1. Standing in the gap is a type of prayer called intercession which is praying for someone else.
  - B. Ephesians 6:10-18 – Part of the armor of God is praying in the Spirit. It takes perseverance and faith to intercede for others. Some of the reasons people don't intercede are laziness and selfishness, which includes indifference and apathy.
- II. Some characteristics of an intercessor.
  - A. Is not called to be a gap finder or identifier but a gap stander.
  - B. Doesn't find faults but stands on God's promises.
  - C. Stands on truth, not gossip.
  - D. Agrees with God and not the adversary.
  - E. Not moved by circumstances, negative reports, or lying imaginations, but locks into faith and will not be moved.
- III. Scriptures on intercession.
  - A. Romans 8:27 – “Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”
  - B. Hebrews 7:25 – “Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.”
    1. The priestly ministry of Jesus is intercession for us.
    2. The closest you will ever feel to Jesus is when you are interceding for someone else.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- If God was seeking for someone to intercede, would you stand in the gap for another?
- Share someone you interceded for and the results of that intercession.
- Do you have the characteristics of an intercessor?
- Which of these points do you need to strengthen?

**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

This week begin to strengthen your prayer life by interceding for others.

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE:** Ezekiel 22:30 – “So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.”