



Intercessory Prayer: Having God speak to you

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."

Standing in the gap is a metaphor for committed intercession. There is a gap between God and man that an intercessor tries to repair and bring restoration

Gap: A break or breach, especially a gap in a wall. The walls of the city protected a city in ancient times. The only way in or out of a city was through the gates unless there was a breach in the wall. An intercessor makes a wall in front of the gap or hole in the wall. He stands between the enemy and the gap. This allows the gap to be repaired. When Nehemiah rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem they would often work on the walls with a shovel on one hand and a sword on the other. They would make a wall and repair the breach. He would stand there until the building process was completed. We need to stand in the gap for others until their victory is won.

Filling in the missing pieces:



- We know in part ~ some guidance will come through knowledge of God's Word/and common sense.
- We prophesy in part ~ some guidance/confirmation will come through prophetic words & utterances.
- **We pray until we receive the answers** ~ most guidance will only be received by taking time to listen to His voice and getting it directly from His throne.



Philippians 4:6-7

NKJV	Message	Amplified
⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.	Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.	6 Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance <i>and</i> in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God. 7 And God's peace [shall be yours, that tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and being content with its earthly lot of whatever sort that is, that peace] which transcends all understanding shall garrison <i>and</i> mount guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.



Guidelines to Philippians 4:6-7:

- Never make decisions out of anxiety
- Never make decisions out of impatience.
- Never make decisions out of anger.
- Never make decisions out of offense.
- Never make decisions out of emotion (positive or negative)
- **Always make decisions based on His peace.**

sup-pli-ca-tion:

- 1. Appeal made to somebody in authority:** a humble appeal to somebody who has the power to grant a request
- 2. Addressing of requests:** the addressing of humble requests and prayers to somebody with the power to grant them
 - to make known one's particular need.
 - "to lack," "to be in need of,"
 - Petition
 - My definition: I can't do it, but you can. I need your help!



Practical application of supplication:

- ☞ It may take a dedicated season of praying about something before you have peace.
- ☞ Don't expect instant soup. It is a process. Emotions require working through.
- ☞ Be open to His speaking to you about your business, family, and ministry.
- ☞ Actively listen: "Speak Lord, your servant is listening".
- ☞ Dedicate designated times on your day runner calendar.
- ☞ It is easier than you realize. It is easier to get up at 3:30 than it is to get up at 7:00. Your mind is clear. Nobody interrupts you.

Jesus spent extra, special time in prayer before making decisions –

Mark 1:35-39 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.

36 And Simon and those who were with Him searched for Him. 37 When they found Him, they said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You." 38 But He said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth." 39 And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons.

Luke 6:12-19 Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. ¹³ And when it was day, He called His disciples to *Himself*; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles: ¹⁴ Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; ¹⁵ Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot; ¹⁶ Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

¹⁷ And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases, ¹⁸ as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed. ¹⁹ And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed *them* all.

Benefit of prolonged prayer is really God has a chance to speak to us, to get our attention. When we take time, as when Jesus spent all night in prayer, we have God's guidance. He had clear direction. The reason we have confusion is we don't take the time to find the mind of God. We don't take the time to seek God's guidance.