



Intercession: Standing in the Gap

Pastor James Heyward

Intercession: Standing between someone's need and God's heart, and refusing to be silent. This is stepping into the gap.

"The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. Pray especially for rulers and their governments to rule well so we can be quietly about our business of living simply, in humble contemplation. This is the way our Savior God wants us to live."

1 Timothy 2:1-3 (MSG)

WHEN YOU STAND IN THE GAP, GRACE RUSHES IN.

- Intercession Builds Compassion

Intercession turns complaining and criticism into compassion.

- 1. What is your first response when someone irritates you?**
- 2. What do you think your response to that person would be if you were consistently praying for them?**
- 3. Challenge: Start praying for one person that you struggle with/ that regularly irritates you?**

- Intercession Changes Atmospheres

“Pray especially for rulers and their governments to rule well so we can be quietly about our business of living simply, in humble contemplation.”

4. What needs to change in your atmosphere/ your surroundings so that you and others ‘can be quietly about your business of living simply’?

5. Do you intercede for this change? Regularly?

6. Challenge: Choose one atmosphere this week; your home, your workplace, your campus, your family, your neighborhood, or your city, and pray over it specifically.

- Intercession Invites Hope

Most of us are where we are today because someone prayed for us - prayers of hope for our safety and well-being.

7. Who prayed for you to know Christ and grow spiritually?

8. Who are you praying for to know Christ and grow spiritually?

9. Challenge: Pray for the same 3 people every day for seven days. Sometime during the week, send them a text letting them know you are praying for them.

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Written by James Heyward and Reenie Peppers