Let Us Pray
Week 1: What is Intercession?

Phil 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer* (worship, earnestly pray, by implication an oratory chapel; small chapel especially for private worship) and supplication (petition, humbly, earnestly, asking) with thanksgiving (gratitude, grateful language to God as an act of worship) let your requests (thing asked) be made known unto God.

1 Tim 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers*, intercessions, (an interview, a meeting face to face, that is specifically supplication) and giving of thanks, be made for all men.
*Rev 1:9 John received Revelation in the Spirit. *Acts 10:9-10 Peter went up to pray and received revelation for Gentiles.

"Intercession is prayer; but all prayer is not intercession. Intercession, then, is that prayer that is made by a third person about the concerns that are between two…. 'He (Jesus) ever lives to make intercession for them. (Heb 7:25).' The high priest is ordained FOR, but not to be against the people. 'Every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, (Heb 5:1)' to make reconciliation for the sins of the people (Heb 2:17); or 'that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.' (Heb 5:1) This, then, is intercession; and the intercession of Christ is to be between two, between God and man, for man's good." John Bunyan's, "Christ a Complete Savoir"

**A picture of intercession, Job came to God with blood for his sons...Job 1:5*

Job 9:32-35 For *he is* not a man, as I *am, that* I should answer him, *and* we should come together in judgment. Neither is there any daysman (mediator) betwixt us, *that* might lay his hand upon us both. Let him take his rod away from me, and let not his fear terrify me: *Then* would I speak, and not fear him; but *it is* not so with me.

Job 16:20-21 My friends are my scoffers as my eyes pour out tears to God. Oh, that a man might plead with God as he pleads with his neighbor!

THE FATHER HAD AN INTERCESSOR PREPARED FOR US!
****There is One God, and One Mediator between God and men, The Man Christ Jesus. 1 Tim 2:5****

Isa 59:16 And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and His righteousness, it sustained Him.

Heb 3:1-2…consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; Who was faithful to **Him that appointed Him**…

Heb 5:5…Christ glorified not Himself to be made a High Priest; but He that said unto Him, **Thou art My Son, today have I begotten Thee.**

Heb 7:24-28 But this Man, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore **He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them.** For such a High Priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needs not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for His own sins, and then for the people's: for this He did once, when He offered up Himself. For the law makes men High Priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, makes the Son, who is consecrated for evermore.

Heb 12:18-24 For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched…But ye are come unto mount Sion…and to **Jesus the mediator of the new covenant**, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

We make intercession on the Grounds of Jesus Intercession, We have no other standing.

1 Tim 2:1-8 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. **For there is one God, and One Mediator (Intercessor) between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;** Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time...**I will therefore that men pray everywhere**, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

We Pray in Jesus Name/Upon His New Covenant

We cannot pray in our name! "God, if you love me…save" This is "beating the air!"
John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

There was a prescribed order for the Old Testament Priest: Offering strange fire…they died before the Lord. (Lev 10:2). Uzzah put forth hand to the ark of God…and died by the ark of God. (2 Sam 6: 7) Some knew and disobeyed, others were ignorant and did error, but the prescribed way did not change or bend. Likewise, there is a prescribed way for us…Jesus is the ONLY way to the Father.

Old Testament believers prayed to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Why? **THE COVENANT** Gen 15:6;17

Gen: 12:1-4 Then the LORD said to Abram, "Leave your country, your kindred, and your father's household, and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you; and all the families of the earth will be blessed through you." So Abram departed, as the LORD had directed him…

Rom 4:1-4 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath *whereof* to glory; but not before God. For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Num. 23:21 He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the LORD his God *is* with him, and the shout of a king *is* among them. (THIS WAS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF ANOTHER)

God covenanted with Himself in the Abrahamic Covenant (Gen 15:12-17) Likewise, in the New Covenant "when God could swear by no greater, He sware by Himself Heb 6:14" (Two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to Lie. Heb 6:14), to the believers in this Holy agreement He says, "I will be merciful to your unrighteousness, and your sins and Iniquities will I remember No more." We like Abram believe in the Lord and He counts us righteous.

We Come by the Blood of the Lamb

Heb 4:14,16 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession…Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Heb 10:19, 22 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus… Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Rom 8:27 "The Spirit makes intercessions for the saints"
Rom 8:34 "Jesus makes intercessions for us, at the right hand of God"
This is why Jesus said we pray, "Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"!

Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. (His Intersessions, His Spirit, the Power of His resurrection, Phil 3)

The Intercessions of Jesus

1. JESUS PRAYS FOR THE LOST
   That the elect may be brought home to him; that is, to God. (Be born again)
   Jesus asks for them as His own, "HIS PURCHASED ONES"
   Isaiah 53:12 "He made intercession for the transgressors"
   John 17:9, "I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou has given me; for THEY ARE MINE.
   John 17:20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their Word.

2. JESUS PRAYS THE SINS WE COMMIT AFTER WE ARE SAVED BE FORGIVEN
   *Lev 5:10… The priest shall make an atonement for him for his sin which he hath sinned, and it shall be forgiven him.
   *Heb 9:1 "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Power in His Intercession!
   Jesus does not pray that we do not sin, but that God "keep us from evil." (John 17) "Kept from soul-damning delusion, "vain imaginations", every sin, temptation, "high thing exalted against the knowledge of God" (2 Cor 10*), that would seek to corrupt our FAITH and seek to destroy our soul.
   Strongholds=lies against Truth
   * He does this by His prevailing, pardoning grace! "I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, their sins and iniquities will I remember no more" (Heb 8:12) BUT The Lord reserves the right to punish, or chasten His born again Children.
   *Heb.12 (God chastens us for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

3. JESUS PRAYS THE GRACES WE RECEIVE WHEN SAVED BE MAINTAINED AND SUPPLIED.
   *Faith is the "Mother Grace", the "Root Grace". The grace with all others flow out of. "We are saved by "Grace through Faith"(Eph 2:8), and so we walk (Col: 2:6). Jesus said, "Your faith has made you whole". (Luke 17:19, Mark 5:34, Matt 9:22, Luke 8:48) "I have prayed for you, that your faith fail not!"
   *Jesus prays that every grace will not fail when He prays that our faith will not fail! That we be "kept in The Father's Name"(John 17:11), "Keep them in thy fear, in the faith, in the true religion, in the way of life by thy grace, and by thy power, by thy Wisdom"

4. JESUS PRAYS WE BE PRESERVED AND BROUGHT SAFELY TO HEAVEN
   "Thine they were and you gave them to Me." (John 17:6) *He has interest in us.
   "I pray for them which you gave me, for they are mine…I am glorified in them"(Jn 17:9-10)
   "the glory which You gave me I have given them; that they may be one even as we are one." (Jn 17:22)
   He wants the glory from our lives, He cares much that we are preserved!
   Father, I WILL that they, whom You have given me, be with me where I am, that they behold my glory…"

"If we believe the Lord, we shall not pray so much but rather we shall praise him more. The simpler and clearer our faith in him the less we shall pray in such situations, and the more we shall praise." Watchman Nee~