

2024 FCBC Retreat – Keynote Message 3
INTERCESSORY PRAYER
(Luke 11:5-8)

Definition: Intercessory prayer is the act of praying on behalf of others. An intercessor is one who takes the place of another or pleads another's case.

We can learn some things about Intercessory Prayer from the parable Jesus gives us in Luke 11:5-8.

1. Those who are given to intercessory prayer become friends with God.

(Verse 5) *"which of you shall have a friend and go to him at midnight.."*

The "friend" that this man in need went to with his request can represent God.

- Abraham was one of the great intercessors in the Bible. (Genesis 18:22-33), Abraham intercedes for Sodom. He is called "A Friend of God" (Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23)
- Moses was a mighty intercessor for Israel (Exodus 32:11-14). In Exodus 33:11, we read, *"so the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend."*
- Since Jesus and the Holy Spirit are interceding for us, are we not especially close to God when we join them in intercessory prayer?
- Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1; Romans 8:26-27

2. Intercessors are sacrificial and unselfish.

(Verse 5b) *"...and go to him at midnight..."*

The dedication and unselfishness of this man is seen in his willingness to go out at midnight to seek help in behalf of his friend. The true intercessor is willing to pray whenever the Holy Spirit brings someone to mind. (Colossians 4:12-13) *"Epaphras, always laboring fervently for you in prayers..."*

- Just as this man interceded for his particular friend, God will put certain people at certain times on our hearts to pray for. (Galatians 6:2) *"Bear one another's burdens..."*

3. The intercessor has faith in a God who can do great things.

(Verse 5c) *"...lend me three loaves..."*

- This was a lot to ask for since one loaf usually was a day's supply.
- In Mark 11:23-24, Jesus tells us that our prayers can move mountains.
- In Mark 10:27, He says, *"... with God all things are possible."*

4. The intercessor realizes their own inadequacies.

(Verse 6) *"...I have nothing to set before him..."*

- Only God can save a soul. Only God can restore a believer. Only God can send true revival, etc. etc.

5. God is not inconvenienced by our prayers.

Verse 7 is in contrast to our heavenly Father, who welcomes and delights in answering our prayers – see 11:11-13.

6. The intercessor is dedicated to perseverance in prayer.

(Verse 8) *"...because of his persistence, he will rise and give him as many as he needs."*

- See also 11:9-10.

2024 孟菲斯第一華人浸信會
退修會主題信息 (3)
「代禱」(路加福音 11:5-8)

定義：代禱就是為別人禱告。代禱者是代表別人或是為他人的需要而懇求的人。

我們可以從耶穌在路加福音 11:5-8 的比喻中學到一些關於代禱的事情。

1. 那些熱心代禱的人會成為神的朋友。

(第 5 節)「你們中間誰有一個朋友半夜到他那裡去…」

這個被有需要的人尋求幫助的「朋友」可以代表神。

- 亞伯拉罕是聖經中最偉大的代禱者之一。(創 18:22-33) 亞伯拉罕為所多瑪代求。他被稱為「神的朋友」(以賽亞書 41:8；雅各書 2:23)。
- 摩西是以色列最偉大的代禱者(出 32:11-14)。在出埃及記 33:11 中，我們讀到：耶和華與摩西面對面說話，好像人與朋友說話一般…。
- 既然耶穌和聖靈為我們代求，當我們與祂們一起禱告時，我們豈不是與神特別親近嗎？
- 希伯來書 7:25；羅馬書 8:34；約翰一書 2:1；羅馬書 8:26-27

2. 代禱者具有犧牲精神而且無私。

(第 5 節中)「…半夜到他那裡去…」

- 這個人的熱誠和無私表現在他願意半夜出去為他的朋友尋求幫助。每當聖靈提醒真正的代禱者時，他們都願意禱告。(歌羅西書 4:12-13) 以巴弗… 在禱告之間，常為你們竭力的祈求…
- 正如這個人特別為他的朋友尋求幫助一樣，神也會在某些時間把特定的人放在我們的心裡為他們祈禱。(加拉太書 6:2) 你們各人的重擔要互相擔當…

3. 代禱者相信神能行大事。

(第 5 節下)「…請借給我三個餅…」

- 這是一個很大的要求，因為一個餅通常是一天的份量。
- 在馬可福音 11:23-24 中，耶穌告訴我們，我們的禱告能夠移山。
- 在馬可福音 10:27 中，祂說：「…因為神凡事都能。」

4. 代禱者了解自己的不足。

(第 6 節)「我沒有什麼給他擺上。」

- 唯有神才能拯救靈魂。唯有神才能挽回一個信徒。唯有神才能帶來真正的復興，等等。

5. 神不會因為我們的禱告而感到不便。

第 7 節與我們的天父形成鮮明對比，祂歡迎並樂意回應我們的禱告 — 參考 11:11-13。

6. 代禱者致力於恆切禱告。

(第 8 節)「…但因他情詞迫切的直求，就必起來照他所需用的給他。」

另參 11:9-10