

Intercessory Prayer Training



TRAVAILING FOR THE NATIONS

Training Believers to Pray for the End Time Harvest



Intercessory Prayer Training

Travailing for the Nations

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Introduction to Intercession

The Revivals of Finney

- We are all familiar with the revivals of Charles Finney
- We've studied his sermons and read the accounts of the revivals
- It is estimated that 85% of his converts remained dedicated Christians
- The unique quality of these revivals is the result it had on society in the towns
- We've read the stories of how taverns closed because they didn't have any customers
- This was because their customers got saved in the revival meetings and had no desire to sin any longer
- Police forces had to lay off officers due to the decreased crime rates
- It seemed there were so many people saved and their lives were so transformed that there wasn't enough crime to justify their employment
- What made these revivals different than others? What was the factor that had such a transforming effect on the converts?
- We know there was a man named Father Nash who went ahead of Finney and remained in prayer during the revival meetings
- He would rent a room or space, get several people to enter into a covenant of prayer with him and pray for these revival meetings
- This deep prayer was sometimes described as moanings and groanings

The Importance of Giving Birth in Prayer

- This fact tells us that the converts were born into the Kingdom through prayer and travail
- This is a distinct difference from the modern practice of 'leading' people to Christ
- Now, we are in favor of any method of getting the lost saved. We rejoice anytime a sinner comes to Christ!
- At the same time, we must take note of the affect the Finney revivals had on people
- It could be described as the difference between being 'led' to Christ and being 'birthed' into the Kingdom through travailing prayer
- Both are genuine, both are effective ways to get people born again
- However, the birthing of people into the Kingdom seems to have a profound effect on their outcome as practicing Christians
- What is the difference? From the Finney revivals, we get a clue
- It seems that believers that are birthed into the Kingdom begin with a consciousness of righteousness
- Their hearts are so affected and changed by the love of God that they become willing and obedient children of God
- This is in stark contrast to our modern church where we lead people to Christ then spend considerable effort teaching them that they are the righteousness of God in Christ
- Also, working with them to grow into a lifestyle of obedience
- This modern condition is so different from the Finney converts who began their Christian life in a lifestyle of obedience
- Both methods result in a home in heaven for the converts
- Yet one method seems to show us a way to bring people to the Kingdom so they can enjoy it and have an immediate influence on their society

The End Time Harvest

- As we approach the end of time we know the fields are ripe for harvest
- We want to use every means at our disposal to bring in the harvest
- At the same time, why not give birth to the children so they can begin the Christian life like their Father?
- Why not give birth to believers whose life changing experience will also affect their communities with the Gospel?
- Let's learn as much about Intercessory Prayer as possible!
- Let's go to the place where we are avid spiritual parents giving birth to children of God!
- Yes, let's have a revival! Let's have a worldwide revival!
- Let's travail for the lost in the Nations!
- Let's give birth to the greatest revival the world has ever seen!

Purpose of these Lessons

- In these lessons on intercession, we want to help every believer learn the foundation of intercession so they can become a spiritual parent in travailing for the lost
- We are sharing principles and the practical how-to-do-it of intercession
- Whether you are an experienced Intercessor or somewhat new, you will gain important insights into this valuable ministry
- We trust that the Holy Spirit will stir your heart to go to a higher place in prayer
- We believe that when you engage in this type of intercession your relationship with Father God will go to new depths and your love and hunger for the lost will increase
- The world is full of lost people that need a Savior and a home in heaven
- Christians are the minority in the world now
- In many nations, they are just a small portion of the population
- We want to change that
- We want to see a massive worldwide revival that sweeps millions into the Kingdom of God
- Thank you for joining us on this journey of learning, inspiration and revelation
- May the Holy Spirit give you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him for intercession

Principles of Intercession, Lesson 1: Praying from our Position in Christ

I. Our position in Christ

A. We are seated spiritually in the heavenlies in Christ

Ephesians 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

Acts 2:33

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

Ephesians 2:6

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Hebrews 7:25

25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

B. Jesus is the chief intercessor and He is seated at the right hand of the Father on the throne of God

C. We are spiritually seated with Jesus at the right hand of the Father on the throne of God

D. When we want to talk to the Father we just need to look to our left

E. We are in a position of complete intimacy and perfect relationship with Father God

II. Our position of intercession towards demon powers

Ephesians 1:20-23

20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Ephesians 6:12

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

A. As intercessors our position in relationship to demon powers is that we are above them and they are under our feet

B. We have all authority over all demon powers

Matthew 28:18

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mark 16:17

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

Luke 9:1

1 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

C. Our operation against demon powers as intercessors is to cast them down from our position in Christ seated on the throne of God

2 Corinthians 10:4

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

- The word 'pulling' in the Greek is 'casting' and is a variation of the word 'casting' in Verse 5
- So, we are casting down from our higher position with authority over demon powers

III. Our mentality as Intercessors

Romans 8:37

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

2 Corinthians 2:14

14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

1 Corinthians 15:57

57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- A. Our mentality as intercessors is that we win every time
- B. We don't wonder or wait to see if we win
- C. We always win
- D. We go into the battle knowing we are finishing as the winners
- E. All we are doing is taking a journey as the Holy Spirit leads us
- F. It's like taking a trip. You are not wondering if you will arrive at your destination. It is simply a matter of how long it will take
- G. We can go into intercession with this same certainty that we know we are winners

Principles of Intercession, Lesson 2: A Prayer Journey

I. Abraham set an example of Intercession

Genesis 18:20-33 (*Story of Abraham interceding for Lot*)

20 And the Lord said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

22 And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the Lord.

23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

26 And the Lord said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes:

28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five?

And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.

29 And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

30 And he said unto him, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

31 And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

33 And the Lord went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

- A. Abraham was from the Mideast and he knew how to negotiate
- B. He had a result in mind when he started
- C. He was just taking steps and traveling a path to get there
- D. For him there was no doubt about getting results it was just a matter of how many steps and how long it would take

II. Intercession as a Journey

- A. The Holy Spirit joins our team

Romans 8:26

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

1. The word 'helpeth' means to take hold or to grab and hold on to something
2. The Holy Spirit comes into our intercession and takes hold of the situation with us
3. It is like a game of tug-of-war {explain this for overseas listeners}
4. When we start this journey the Holy Spirit, Jesus and the Father join our team and take hold of the rope with us

5. The Holy Spirit gives us instructions on what to do
6. We are absolutely certain of victory

B. Paul depended upon the Holy Spirit for his journeys

Acts 16:7-9

- 7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.
- 8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.
- 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

1. Here we see the Holy Spirit helped guide Paul on each step of his journey
2. It works the same in an intercessors journey
3. The Holy Spirit will guide you for each step
4. He will show you each place to go in intercession, how long to stay and what needs to be done while you are there

C. Jesus went on a prayer journey

Matthew 26:42-44

- 42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.
- 43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy.
- 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

1. It took Jesus 3 stages to get through the intercession for His sacrificial ministry
2. He was facing great resistance against His ministry
3. It took a journey of intercession to get through to the goal

D. Paul went on a prayer journey

2 Corinthians 12:7-8

- 7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.
- 8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

1. Paul's experience is very common
2. He prayed 3 times before he could see what the real problem was
3. It wasn't until the third step that he could see the problem was a demon spirit and not him or the people that were attacking him
4. If you study his ministry in Acts, you will see he is run out of town after short stays until Acts 18
5. Here he stays at Corinth for 1½ years
6. Then in Acts 19 he stays at Ephesus for what becomes 3 years (Acts 20:31)
7. His intercession for his ministry was a journey that led him to the answer and the desired result

E. The mindset of victory

1 John 5:14-15

- 14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Matthew 21:22

22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

1. We know that God designed prayer to get results and receive answers
2. We need to enter intercession knowing we are going to win
3. Our minds and hearts need to be set with the idea that we are going to win
4. It is simply a matter of how many steps we need to take on the journey
5. Intercession should be seen as a journey to victory

Principles of Intercession, Lesson 3: Victory Through Jesus

I. Jesus Came to Deliver Us

Galatians 1:4

4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

- A. Jesus came to deliver us from:
1. Present wicked age
 2. Present world order

II. Present Wicked Age and World Order

1 John 5:19

19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

Ephesians 2:2

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

John 16:11

11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

2 Corinthians 4:4

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them

- The present wicked age and world order is the kingdom established by Satan on this earth
- The sinner world is under his sway and following his path
- The body of Christ has authority to disrupt his order and establish the Kingdom of God under the leadership of Jesus Christ.

III. Jesus Provides Victory

A, Jesus disarmed the devil

Colossians 2:15

15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

- Jesus spoiled Satan and demon spirits
- Spoil means to 'disarm', or to take away all the weapons
- The devil is a defenseless enemy

Luke 11:21-22

21 When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace:

22 But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.

- This is a picture of what Jesus did to the devil and demon powers when He was raised from the dead
- Jesus took all the armor and weapons and all the possessions away from the devil

B. Jesus divides the spoils of his victory with us

Isaiah 53:12

12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

- Jesus has the things He took from the devil in battle
- He divides those things with us

C. Jesus made the devil's powers and abilities of no effect, or neutralized

Hebrews 2:14

14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

- Jesus neutralized the devil's power over us
- In Christ, we are completely victorious over demon powers

D. Jesus bruised Satan's head

Genesis 3:15

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

E. Jesus gave us authority over hell and death

Revelation 1:18

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

- Every force of demon powers, including death, is submitted to Jesus
- When we use His Name, everything yields to us like it did Jesus

F. Jesus gave us power and authority over the devil

Matthew 28:18

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mark 16:17

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

Luke 10:19

19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

- Jesus has given to the members of His church all the power and authority that He won in His battle with the devil and demon spirits
- We can use that power and authority to defeat any demon force that we might deal with

IV. Statements that apply to the believer

1. We are armed

2 Corinthians 10:3-4

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

2. We are empowered

Matthew 12:28

28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

2 Corinthians 1:21

21 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;

Acts 1:8

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

3. We are authorized

Luke 10:19

19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Principles of Intercession, Lesson 4: Principle of the Presence of God

I. God wants His Presence to fill the earth

A. God wants His Presence to fill the earth and bless people

Habukkuk 2:14

14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 40:5

5 And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

B. The Glory falls in the New Testament

Acts 2:2-4

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

- They were filled with this glory
- They were changed by this glory
- Example: Peter stood up and preached and 3,000 were saved (even though he denied Jesus 3 times)

C. The Presence will change lives

2 Corinthians 3:18

18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

- We are supposed to be changed into the image of Christ
- This verse tells us that when we behold the glory of the Lord it changes us
- We are supposed to increase in this glory and go higher and higher
- Being filled with God's manifested presence helps us change to be more like Jesus
- We should want every area of our lives filled with this presence and affected by it

II. What happens when demon powers are removed

A. Jesus describes what happens when demon powers are removed

Luke 11:24-26

24 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out.

25 And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished.

26 Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first.

- According to Jesus, if a demon power is removed and the empty place is not filled with something else, then the original demon will bring 7 other demons and fill that place again.
- Now you have 8 demon powers filling the original place

- Jesus says that this makes things worse

B. Filling the empty space

Luke 8:35

35 Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.

- This is the story we call the Madman of Gadara
- If you will read the entire story you will find the demons left this man and drove 2,000 pigs into the water to drown
- Here Jesus sets the example of what he later taught in Luke 11:24-26
- This man is listening to Jesus and Jesus is helping him fill the empty space of his heart and mind with the Word of God
- Jesus knew the man needed to be filled with something of God to prevent the demons from coming back and inhabiting him again

C. Filling the empty space today

Acts 10:44-45

44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

- Since the day of Pentecost people can now be saved and filled with Jesus and also filled with the Holy Spirit
- God wants to fill the empty space with Himself
- He does that by filling saved people with the Holy Spirit
- This fills any empty spot after a demon leaves
- We should always minister salvation and the infilling of the Holy Spirit to people delivered from demon powers

III. The principle of filling the empty space extended to intercessory prayer

A. Demon powers occupy areas

Daniel 10:13

13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

Ephesians 6:12

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

- From these verses, we understand that demon powers occupy spaces above the earth that are represented by geographic areas
- We need to understand that the principle that Jesus taught us in Luke 11:24-26 applies anywhere demon powers inhabit a space

- We must be aware that when we cast out demon powers the space must be filled with the Presence of God
- If it is not, then 8 demon powers will return and fill that space
- Then you will have to fight 8 demons instead of just 1

B. The church was sent to occupy the earth

Luke 19:13

13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

Ephesians 1:22-23

22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,
23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

- The church is to occupy the earth on behalf of Jesus
- It is His desire that we conquer and fill the earth with the Gospel, the church and the Presence of God
- We are supposed to cast out demon powers and fill the empty space
- God wants everyone to experience His Presence

C. We must fill empty spaces

- We need to remember what Jesus taught us about empty spaces
- We don't need to make an empty space unless there is something to fill it
- Otherwise you will have to deal with 8 demon spirits instead of just 1

D. The church is to fill empty spaces

2 Corinthians 1:11

11 Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

Colossians 4:3-4

3 Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

4 That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

- In these verses we see several things
- In 2 Corinthians 1:11 it says that when we pray for ministers, churches and ministries we are helping them and working together with them
- We are part of their team that is working to expand their ministries
- In Colossians 4:3-4 Paul first is asking for prayer for an open door so that he may expand the Gospel
- Then he is speaking about making it manifest, or, "to make actual and visible, realized."
- This refers to something happening that can be seen in the natural world
- We are supposed to fill empty spaces spiritually, then these things show up in physical ways
- Examples would be to build/buy buildings to house church congregations, Gospel crusades, church growth, planting churches, outreaches and any other demonstration of the Gospel

E. Joining forces

- This course focuses mainly on praying for the lost
- However, we will have to deal with demon powers
- We just want to give some clarity on this issue
- We encourage believers to pray for ministers, churches and ministries
- When you do this, you join with them in their work
- Then, when you do come against demon powers it is something that is trying to hinder those ministries
- When you deal with the demon power and cast it out, then there is a representative of the Gospel that can take God's Presence and fill that empty place
- This is better than just casting out spirits without something to occupy the space and then 8 demons come back to inhabit the space
- Then the next ministry that comes to that place has to deal with 8 demons instead of just 1
- We can pray for the lost because it is God's will for all to be saved
- When we learn how to travail for the lost then it remains a 1-on-1 issue between them and God
- There is no demon power that can stop that
- When we travail and give birth we bypass all other conditions and connect the individual directly with God

Principles of Intercession, Lesson 5: The Witchcraft Question

I. Demon powers work against the Gospel

A. Against the lost

2 Corinthians 4:4

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

- It is demon powers that work against lost people to try and prevent them from being saved
- They operate to keep people's minds and hearts from understanding the Gospel message
- They work against their minds to prevent them from having mental understanding
- They work against the faith for salvation
- It is like they have people in a big bubble full of darkness and the light of the Gospel cannot get through

B. Against the church

1 Timothy 4:1

1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

Seducing spirits described

- a) Turn believers away from faith and the Truth of the Word of God
- b) People that suddenly turn away from good Bible doctrine could be under the influence of seducing spirits. It is a change that happens quickly with no apparent reason. They start listening to some teacher that is wrong and suddenly follow them

- c) Demon doctrines are doctrines that don't agree with the Word of God, half truths and even a proper doctrine taken to an extreme
- d) These are all the work of demon powers influencing church members

II. The Galatian church example

- a) The whole church was being seduced

Galatians 1:6

6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

- b) Church members were being hindered in their spiritual progress

Galatians 5:7-8

7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you.

Hindered:

- (1) Interfered
- (2) Hindered
- (3) Stopped
- (4) Unsettled

- c) Demon powers hindered Paul's ministry

1 Thessalonians 2:18

18 Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.

- d) Demon powers were trying to move them from their faith by afflictions

1 Thessalonians 3:3-5

3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.

4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.

5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

III. The source of the demon activity

- The source of the demon activity in the Galatian church was witchcraft

Galatians 3:1

1 O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

Senseless Galatians, who is it that has cast a spell on you, that you should refuse your loyalty to the truth...Knox (The New Testament in the Translation of Monsignor Ronald Knox)

You stupid Galatians! Who has put you under a spell?...Jewish New Testament

O you poor and silly and thoughtless and unreflecting and senseless Galatians! Who has fascinated or bewitched or cast a spell over you...The Amplified Version

Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you?...New Living Testament

- Witchcraft is an enemy of the Gospel and the church
- It is often the unseen enemy using spiritual influence against the church

IV. Idolatry and Witchcraft Hand-In-Hand

Galatians 5:19-21

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

- We have seen that witchcraft is an enemy of the Gospel and the church
- We have seen how it seeks to hinder the Gospel and the church
- It seeks to be a religion of its own
- However, it will work with idolatry to dominate people
- It will help idolatry to flourish in order to control people by opening their lives to demon influence

1 Corinthians 10:19-20

19 What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing?

20 But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

- Idolatry is the opposite of worshipping Jesus and Father God
- If people are trapped by idolatry, then they won't seek the true God

Luke 11:24-26

24 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out.

25 And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished.

26 Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first.

- Demons often work in groups in order to overcome their victims
- Witchcraft will work with spirits of idolatry or any other religious spirit to hold back the Gospel
- Witchcraft will work against a minister, church or ministry to prevent revival and the move of God
- Since the will of God is to fill people with His Presence then witchcraft will work against that

V. Witchcraft's Goal

Nahum 3:4

4 Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts.

- The goal of witchcraft is to control people to the point of slavery
- *Selleth*: to sell, literally (as merchandise, a daughter in marriage, into slavery) or figuratively (to surrender), Strong's Concordance
- This verse shows how witchcraft wants to enslave people to the point of owning them and selling them

VI. Peter's Revelation

Acts 10:38

38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

- Peter had the revelation that Jesus was anointed to defeat demon powers
- The same Holy Spirit and the same anointing is on the church
- Every member of the Body of Christ is anointed to defeat demon powers

VII. Paul's Revelation about witchcraft

Acts 13:6-12

6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus:

7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9 Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

12 Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.

- Barjesus was a sorcerer, or a male that practiced witchcraft
 - Notice that the Holy Spirit shows us 2 areas where witchcraft was influencing people
1. Keeping a person from getting saved—verse 8, “seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith”
 2. Hindering the ministry of Paul, a representative of the church—verse 10, “thou enemy of all righteousness”
- These are the same 2 things we saw demon powers doing in the beginning of our lesson
 - This is a clear demonstration of the work of witchcraft to keep people from being saved and hindering the church

Acts 13:11

11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

- Notice that Paul came against witchcraft boldly and there was an easy victory
- We can be assured that we can come against witchcraft boldly and have victory

VIII. Paul's Greatest Revival Defeated Witchcraft

Acts 19:18-20

18 And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds.

19 Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

20 So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

- Paul's greatest revival defeated witchcraft
- It may have been the greatest revival of the book of Acts
- As a result of this revival the entire region was reached with the Gospel

Acts 19:10

10 And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

- This study shows us that when we pray for the lost, ministers, the church and ministries we will probably run into witchcraft on the journey
- It is important to be aware of that
- Usually when I run into a wall in intercession, I ask the Holy Spirit if it is witchcraft
- I have learned that when everything should be working and moving forward but it seems stalled, then it is most often witchcraft

Galatians 3:13

13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

Revelation 12:11

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Mark 16:17

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

Luke 10:19

19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Colossians 2:15

15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Philippians 2:9-10

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

Revelation 20:10

10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

- In closing I just wanted to remind us that all demon powers including witchcraft are defeated by the Cross, the Resurrection and Jesus' Seating at the Father's right hand
- We are more than conquerors in Christ, God always makes us to triumph in Him and He always gives us the victory because we are in Christ!

Principles of Intercession, Lesson 6: Dealing with Spiritual Influences

Ephesians 6:10-19

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

- Regarding these verses, we have put too much emphasis on the demon powers and not enough on the armor
- The armor wins against a defeated enemy
- Let's focus more on the prayer we are commanded to pray rather than the enemy that is already defeated

A. Wrestling against spiritual forces-verse 12

1. *Wrestle*- "wrestling (a contest between two in which each endeavors to throw the other, and which is decided when the victor is able to hold his opponent down with his hand upon his neck", Touch Bible HD

Colossians 2:15

15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

- We need to realize that Jesus already won the wrestling match
- Jesus defeated Satan and all his demon spirits at the Resurrection and Ascension
- We are simply using His victory and our position in Christ to overcome demon forces and influences

2. *Against*-best use of the word from the Greek would be “toward”

- Exert force toward the enemy.
- Not a wrestling as we do in the sport to see who wins
- Jesus already won and we are working in His victory
- Toward demonic spirits that rule and control areas of the spirit realm and not toward people

B. Standing but not attacking

1. Standing against demon powers is mentioned 4 times in this passage

Verse 11, “stand against the wiles of the devil”

Verse 13, “withstand in the evil day”

Verse 13, “having done all, to stand”

Verse 14, “Stand therefore”

2. Attacking is not mentioned

C. The purpose of the armor

1. Prayer activates the armor

- a. Verse 18 says to pray for Christians consistently
- b. Verse 19 says to pray for Christian ministers

2. When you pray for Christians and ministers you will run into demon powers that are trying to hinder them

- You have the authority and weapons to set them free
- The sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, will set them free from demonic influences

3. When you begin taking your place and exercising authority then they will counterattack

- This is why you need the armor
- You will have to stand against the demon forces trying to hold their place and counterattacking against you
- You have armor to protect you and defeat them

4. The only weapon of the enemy mentioned is fiery darts

- They really don’t have any other weapons
- Your shield of faith will protect you

D. Standing up to demon spirits will cause them to flee

1. Demons tremble at the mention of the Name of Jesus

James 2:19

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

- Reminding them that God is real and Jesus is real causes them to tremble
- They know they are stripped of armor and weapons and they are defenseless

2. Demons run from us when we resist them by standing up to them

James 4:7

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

- When we stand our ground like Ephesians 6, verses 11,13 and 14 tell us, then demon powers flee from us
- Some translations say they flee in terror

E. Taking territory

- When we pray for believers and ministers we will come across demon powers
- When this happens, we are authorized to engage them
- This is when battle comes as we stand our ground
- We are assured by Scripture that when we stand and resist then the demon powers will flee at some point in time
- Then we will have complete victory and continue to move forward

F. Principles of standing your ground

1. Verse 10-Be strong in the Lord
 2. Verse 10-Be in the power of His might
 3. Verse 11-Stand against wiles or tricks of the devil
 4. Verse 13-Withstand at all times
 5. Verse 13-Having done all, or, having done all you know to do
 6. Verse 14-Stand as one who is armed and knows they win over a defeated enemy
- If you can withstand in an evil day, you can surely withstand in a good day.
 - Withstand also means to "oppose" and to "resist"
 - James 4:7-This resistance causes the devil to flee, run away in stark terror

G. Review of the principles of the armor

Ephesians 6:10-19

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
 18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
 19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

1. Look at the verses in Ephesians 6:10-19. What are we commanded to do?

1. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might-Verse 10
2. Put on the whole armor of God-Verse 11
3. Stand by using the armor-Verses 14-17
4. Pray for all Christians-Verse 18
5. Pray for ministers-Verse 19

2. What are we commanded to do about demon powers?

- There are really no direct commands regarding demon powers
- There is only information about their rank and information about what will happen
- We are informed that there will be a conflict
- We are commanded what to do when the conflict comes

1. Stand/withstand-Verses 11, 13, and 14
2. Quench fiery darts-Verse 16

3. We need to obey the commands given to us and focus on that

- We need to focus on praying for Christians and ministers
- We need to be aware of the results of counterattacks
- We need to obey the commands on how to be prepared for this kind of prayer warfare

Practical Intercession: Weapons, Methods and Techniques

1. Name of Jesus

Mark 16:17

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

Philippians 2:9-10

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

Acts 16:16-18

16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

- Used mainly in a direct rebuke of a specific evil spirit or spirits when known and identified or when Satanic power is identified as directly attacking or influencing
- Used for prayer of deliverance (Mk. 16:15-20), binding and loosing (Mt. 16:18-19), resisting the devil (James 4:7), breaking the power of the devil in general (Acts 10:38; Is. 10:27), breaking the power of curses or spells (Gal. 3:13; Prov. 26:2; Num. 23:8)

2. Blood of Jesus

A. Overcomes

Revelation 12:11

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

B. Redeems/delivers

Ephesians 1:7

7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

C. Faith, Mercy and Cleansing

Romans 3:25

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Hebrews 4:16

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

D. Speaks

Hebrews 12:24

24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

- Used to break Satanic power, purge places and things and bring the power of God to bear
- Used in prayer for the lost, places, (buildings, homes, cities, countries), groups of people (family, church, city), obtaining mercy and grace (Heb. 4:16) and to bring the power of God to bear on any situation

3. Word of God

Isaiah 55:11

11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

1 John 3:8

8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

John 6:63

63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Matthew 8:16

16 When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:

James 2:19

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

- Used in any situation to bring power of God and laws of God into a situation and to bring Satan into line with the Word
- Used in all prayers in your own language

4. Obtaining Mercy and Grace

Hebrews 4:16

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Ephesians 2:4

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

1 Timothy 1:13-14

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 1:12 (Amplified)

It is a reason for pride and exultation to which our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world [generally] and especially toward you, with devout and pure motives and godly sincerity, not in fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God (the unmerited favor and merciful kindness by which God, exerting His holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, and keeps, strengthens, and increases them in Christian virtues).

- Used to bring power of God into lives
- Used in praying especially for sinners, ignorant, weak, believers involved in sin, and any place where people aren't in faith and need God's divine help

5. Praying in Tongues in Intercession

- Praying in Tongues is prayer

1 Corinthians 14:14-15

14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. 15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

Ephesians 6:18

18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

- When Praying in Tongues you can do any type or kind of prayer that can be done your own language.

A. Situation Tongues

-praying out the specifics of a situation especially when there no, or, very little details are known

Philippians 1:16-19

16 The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: 17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. 18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

19 For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Acts 12:1-17 (Story of Peter being released from jail by an angel)

1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

4 And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.

5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.

10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.

11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

12 And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.

13 And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda.

14 And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.

15 And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel.

16 But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

17 But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

- Main instrument for changing outward situations and, especially, circumstances

B. Knowledge Tongues

-when you need knowledge to know what technique or weapon to use

1 Corinthians 14:13-15

13 Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.

14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

1 Corinthians 2:11,13

11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

John 16:13

13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

1 John 2:27

27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

Colossians 2:5

5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the stedfastness of your faith in Christ.

Acts 10:9-20 (*Peter's vision of animals*)

9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

10 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,
11 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:
12 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.
13 And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.
14 But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.
15 And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.
16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.
17 Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,
18 And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.
19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.
20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

- Used to get more insight in your spirit when you sense you have finished praying out a step and you know you are ready to go to the next
- Allows you to continue praying about a situation when you seem to be at a stopping place, but you know you are not finished. When the knowledge comes, you will be able to continue and will know which technique to use

C. Boldness or Battle Tongues

-used when a surge of power comes and you need to release it or when you need to break through to a new level or place

James 4:7

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 5:8-9

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Ephesians 6:10

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Colossians 2:1

1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

1 Corinthians 15:32

32 If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die.

Proverbs 30:29-30

29 There be three things which go well, yea, four are comely in going:
30 A lion which is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any;

Romans 5:17

17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

- Used to release faith and boldness in battle.
- Sometimes the devil will roar and you need to demonstrate faith, power and victory
- It also affects your mind and response
- Keeps off thoughts of weakness
- Gives the Lord confidence in your praying and boldness and He strengthens you

Psalm 31:24

24 Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

D. Language Tongues

-used to speak in the language of a culture that may be part of a person's heritage so you can pray more precisely for them, or, when a certain language has words and phrases that can express things more accurately

1 Corinthians 13:1

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

1 Corinthians 14:10, 19-21

10 There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification.

19 Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

21 In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

1 Corinthians 14:13

13 Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.

1 Corinthians 14:24-25

24 But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all:

25 And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.

1 Corinthians 11:16

16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.

- Used to pray for a deeper and greater move of God in lives, help their heart be prepared for God to deal with them and bring the will of God to pass in their lives, clear up minds, emotions and will.
- Enables you to get in unity with their innermost desires and plans that are placed there by God, enabling you to express these things as an intercessor in their place.
- Don't take on burdens here. Pray the positive to come and the negative to leave
- You Can get at the heart of problems caused by ethnic background, discuss them with God, express desire for change and get the power of God through to them.
- You can express in a shorter time a personality trait or hereditary personality condition and get it changed in the person
- Generally speaking, this overcomes many traits caused by cultural differences between ethnic backgrounds and current culture
- Also, you can pray about complex inner traits and conditions in fewer words or in words and phrases known only in other languages
- Also, handle multiple ancestry traits. Handle things that have been passed down like methods of thinking, emotional responses, religious influence
- Plowing and clearing the soil of the heart for planting

E. Edification Tongues

-building yourself up so you can stay strong and preparing for the next step

1 Corinthians 14:4

4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

1 Corinthians 14:21

21 In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

Jude 1:20

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

Isaiah 28:11-12

11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

12 To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

- Used to build up and refresh.
- Sometimes things get too heavy and you need to back off, get built up and rested, then you can pick up and go again. Knowledge tongue can often do this, too

F. Conversation Tongues

-having a casual conversation the God, discussing a situation or sharing out of your heart on an issue

1 Corinthians 14:2

2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

Isaiah 1:18

18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

- Used to talk to the Lord informally.
- Sometimes you need to decide whether to go on or not or find out which direction to go
- Usually your own personal prayer tongue
- Sometimes you just want to fellowship with the Lord about your own life. This would apply in this case
- Reason with the Lord

G. Prophecy Tongues

-prophesying to people or situations and may or may not be interpreted

1 Corinthians 14:3, 5-6

3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

6 Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?

Ezekiel 37:1-10

1 The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones,

2 And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry.

3 And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest.

4 Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

5 Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:

6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

8 And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them.

9 Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

Psalms 103:20

20 Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.

- Used to speak to situations, angles, devils, people by inspiration of the Holy Spirit
- Will happen often when a surge of power comes
- It is the Word of the Lord to a situation, demon or person
- May or may not be interpreted
- Releases, directs, instructs angels

H. Joy Tongues

-expressing joy to praise for a victory or to release the joy of victory

1 Corinthians 14:14-17

14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

16 Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?

17 For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.

- Used to express and release joy, praise and worship and forces of these
- Will happen when victory is sensed sometimes
- Can be used to worship in times when you sense that
- Can be used to build yourself up by worshipping
- Can be done in boldness to release power or praise against enemy

I. Combinations

-combinations of the different kinds of tongues may be used to bring results.

Examples:

- Boldness and joy tongues
 - Knowledge and prophecy tongues
 - Joy and edification tongues
 - Prophecy and situation tongues
- (Not limited to these, just examples of possibilities.)

6. Groaning in the Spirit

A. General principle

2 Corinthians 5:2-4

2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:

3 If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked.

4 For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life

Romans 8:23

23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

Psalm 38:8

8 I am faint and sorely bruised [deadly cold and quite worn out]; I groan by reason of the disquiet and moaning of my heart.

1. Groaning is an outward expression of inward, spiritual things.

- It is a deeper expression than Praying in Tongues
- When people suffer physically or emotionally, then they will often express that pain in groans or moans
- The spirit person can do the same thing
- In intercession, the Holy Spirit helps our spirit to express these deep pains that may be past explaining, even past being able to say things in words
- The only expression is to take what you are experiencing on the inside and express it through these groanings and moanings

2. Can be understood by God

Romans 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Acts 7:33-34

33 Then said the Lord to him, Put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground.

34 I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt.

- Example: Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead
- Jesus groaned and called it prayer

John 11:33, 38, 41

33 When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,

38 Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

B. Groanings help overcome infirmities

Romans 8:26

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

1. Infirmities-want of strength, weakness, indicating inability to produce results, Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words

- We could say the inability to have success
- For personal use as well as for intercession

2. Overcome and cleanse things

- a. Things you pick up in life
- b. Things you pick up in intercession

C. Groaning overcomes infirmities concerning others

Acts 17:16

16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

- Groanings help your inability to succeed in praying for others
- General Rule-Go to groanings when nothing else seems to work, or, you don't sense you are making progress.

D. Things groanings will do

1. Overthrow strong holds

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

6 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

2. Put you in touch with inner needs and hurts of others that are inexpressible by them or by language

Romans 8:26

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

3. Express inner needs and hurts for others

Acts 7:33-34

33 Then said the Lord to him, Put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground.

34 I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt.

4. Express things for the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.
27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

5. Draw things from Spirit dimension into this dimension

Romans 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.
27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

(1.) Mercy and grace (Heb. 4:16)

Hebrews 4:16

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

(2.) Power of God (Eph. 3:20)

Ephesians 3:20

20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us

(3.) Love of God

Romans 5:5

5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

(4.) Other things needed but unknown, can't be explained or expressed with words

Romans 8:26

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

6. Releases tremendous power

James 5:16 (Amplified)

16 Confess to one another therefore your faults (your slips, your false steps, your offenses, your sins) and pray [also] for one another, that you may be healed and restored [to a spiritual tone of mind and heart]. The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]. (Underlining by author to emphasize the sentence)

E. The expressions of Groanings

Spiritual: Inner pain and discomfort in belly
Emotional: Pain similar to when someone hurts you emotionally
Physical release: Moanings and groanings, mouth closed or open

7. Bowels of Mercy

Philippians 2:1

1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

Colossians 3:12

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

1 John 3:17

17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

A. Bowels in Greek and Hebrew are seat of the strongest kind of emotions. Speaking here in the NT of spiritual bowels, we are speaking of deep areas of the spirit.

B. Speaking of going to a deeper level in intercessory prayer.

C. In our references we are talking about certain aspects of the nature of Father God.

Philippians 2:1-mercies

Colossians 3:12-mercies, kindness

1 John 3:17-compassion, love

D. In Galatians 5:22-23 we have the fruit of our recreated human spirit. These things aren't listed. So, we are talking about something else. We know that we have the Father's nature (2 Corinthians 5:17-18) so we have mercy, kindness and compassion in us.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

E. In the natural, bowels are intestines, containers of things to be released by the body.

In the spirit, they are containers in our spirit man which release things out of our spirits.

F. In the natural, intestines (or bowels) receive from the stomach the items to be released. So, the spiritual bowels can receive and release.

G. General Principle

After interceding about a situation or person, bowels release mercy, kindness or compassion upon the situation or person.

- We are God's instruments.

- Just as the Word of God and gifts of the Spirit are released and manifested through us, so are mercy, kindness and compassion.
- In this case, they are released through prayer.
- Can be released two basic ways:
 1. Drawing from attributes in your spirit.
 - In this case, you go deep within you, past other levels and pull it up and release it.
 2. While standing in the gap, your own bowels get filled to overflowing and you release it.
 - In both cases the method of release would be through open mouth groanings and weeping.
 - Release is very close to the pushings of travail and can be the beginnings of travail
 - Weeping and crying are the physical indicators of this stage
 - Very close to travail, so can begin to use some methods of travail if necessary to gain release.
 - Compared to groanings, the sensation moves down into the belly area and it feels like your belly is filling up like someone was pouring water into your belly
 - It is not a painful feeling like groanings, but rather very smooth

H. The expressions of Bowels

Spiritual: Belly feels like it is filling up

Emotional: Compassion even to an overwhelming degree

Physical release: Open mouth moanings and forms of weeping and crying

8. Travail for Birth

I. Travail principles

Galatians 4:19

19 My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

A. Travail can be for 2 areas

1. Bring to life
2. Bring to maturity

B. It is done supernaturally

Galatians 4:27

27 For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

- It is supernatural because it doesn't require a husband
- Anyone can 'get pregnant' with another life that needs new birth or Christian maturity

C. Zion travailed and gave birth supernaturally

Isaiah 66:8

8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

- This is a supernatural event and requires our cooperation

II. Pregnancy

- A. To give birth, you must have something to give birth to
- B. Must become pregnant with something in the spirit dimension
 - 1. Seed
 - 2. Vision

III. Delivery or Birthing Is Travail

- A. Is. 66:8 said "bring forth"
- B. Bring it forth in spirit as you do in natural
- C. You deliver or give birth
- D. In natural, this process is called "travail"
- E. In the spirit, it is called "travail"
- F. Method for both is the same. Travail of delivery occurs when mother's body begins to push on baby to force it out of womb into real world
- G. Spiritual travail is when you take a grown seed or vision in your spirit, begin to push on it to force it or release it into the natural world
- H. This thing that has been conceived in your spirit is released into the natural world through travail

IV. Method of Release

- A. Method of release becomes "pushing"
- B. Might start as Groanings then move to Bowels as you sense pressure building in your spirit. Then as size of seed or vision prevents it from passing out of your spirit, you must begin to "push"
 - This is much as a woman does in giving birth in the natural
- C. It seems painful to your spirit and sometimes in your body.

V. Knowing When You're Finished

- A. Increasing painfulness in your spirit and body will be relieved.
- B. You will have a peace and/or joy in your spirit.
- C. There will be a great sense of release in your spirit and soul in general.

VI. Some Facts About Travail

A. Can come suddenly, not necessarily building up.

1 Thessalonians 5:3

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

B. Doesn't have to last long

Isaiah 66:8

8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

- A nation be born at once
- As soon as Zion travailed she brought forth her children

C. Can help others as a "midwife"

Exodus 1:17, 20-21

17 But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.

21 And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses.

Romans 15:30

30 Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me;

Travail Overcomes All Obstacles

I. Travail bypasses all resistance

Galatians 4:27

27 For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

- Travail is giving birth
- It causes spiritual principles to be put in operation that are absolute
- There is no demonic answer for travail
- Giving birth is a family issue
- It is only dependent upon the birth process

II. Salvation is a 1-on-1 experience

John 1:12

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- There is no spiritual force or demon power that can prevent a person from being saved if the person decides to receive Jesus as Savior
- Salvation is a 1-on-1 experience with Father God
- When someone receives Jesus as Savior by faith no devil out of hell can stop that
- When a person is in that position it is between them and God

III. Travail puts a person in position to receive

Isaiah 66:8

8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

- Notice that travail brings forth children
- When we travail for the lost we put them in that 1-on-1 position where it is between them and God
- When a woman gives birth, the baby is her child
- There is no changing that
- The baby is there and now it is the child of the father
- This is what happens in the spirit dimension when we travail
- We bring forth children
- It is a relationship
- We intercede for the person to put them in that 1-on-1 position to meet the Father

IV. Birth of spiritual children

John 3:6

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Hebrews 12:9

9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

- When people are birthed through travail they receive attributes of the parent just like children do in natural birth
- We have all seen children who have expressions and even personality traits just like parents
- These are inherited just like their looks
- When we give birth through travail then people come out of the spiritual womb in a similar way
- They already have traits and tendencies like their Father
- They have been formed in the spiritual womb and come out into new birth with more of the nature of their Father

V. Travail is birth

Isaiah 66:8

8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

- Travail is the birth process

- It insures that lost souls will come into the kingdom of God
- It allows spiritual children to be developed in the spiritual womb
- It is just as guaranteed to bring forth children as a natural birth
- We must be people who travail for the lost to guarantee a spiritual revival

VI. The expressions of Travail

Spiritual: Inner area in the belly is full of something and it feels stuck inside like it can't get out, becomes uncomfortable and somewhat painful

Emotional: Some anxiety and being anxious just like a mother ready to give birth

Physical release: Pushing with the mouth open and sounds forced out

Staying Balanced

Some "Do's" Of Intercession

1. Keep Priorities in Order-Don't Let Them Slip

Ecclesiastes 3:1

1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

- Priorities for life:
 1. God
 2. You
 3. Spouse
 4. Children
 5. Job
 6. Ministry
- If you must take a break from Intercessory Prayer Ministry to get the priorities in right order then it is all right
- God's grace will carry anything and anyone if you need to do this
- God will call on other intercessors to take up the cause if you take a break
- The world doesn't rise or fall on you but on God

2. Stay Humble Before God

Matthew 23:12

12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

- Don't be lifted up because of sensitivity in the Spirit
- When praying for long periods of time you can see things in the spirit dimension
- It is a seeing and knowing but not given by the Holy Spirit for any action on your part
- The things you see are not a revelation to action or to be shared
- They are simply information you received by being sensitive to the Holy Spirit because of prayer

3. Keep A Right Attitude Toward Other Ministers

Romans 12:3

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

- Don't place your ministry higher than others
- Just because other believers don't see things in the spirit like you do, it doesn't make them inferior
- Each ministry has an anointing to fulfill a place in the body
- Each one is different and most other believers and even leaders may not see what you see and hear what you hear
- This doesn't make one ministry better, higher or more important than another, just different

4. Fulfill the Vision

Philippians 3:13-14

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

- Don't get sidetracked and become a "bless me" club
- In prayer groups, stay focused on one issue at a time
- As an individual, take one issue per prayer session instead of hitting several
- Realize you may be praying about future events and moving your project along a time line

5. Be a flexible vessel for every good work

2 Timothy 2:21

21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

- Don't limit yourself
- Get involved with other areas of the Ministry of Helps at your local church
- Do some practical ministry as well as prayer ministry

6. Stay Refreshed

[Plan for Staying Balanced and Refreshed](#)

1. Be Still

- Like a cool-down after a work out
- Soak in the Presence of God
- Get your spirit, soul and body still and calmed down

2. Refill

- Spend time in Word to get built back up

3. Refresh

- Praise and worship

4. Release

- Detach from prayer project and leave it in prayer closet when not in prayer
- Just like a pastor/minister

5. Go for Peace

- Ultimate witness of completion and success is peace

Be Still, Refill, Refresh, Release, Go for Peace!