

Episode 026

Discovering Sphere Of Influence In Prayer Series : Standing In The Gap

Introduction

As fellow believers and disciples of Christ, we need to truly unite our hearts to pray and stand in the gap for more of God's Kingdom advancement. God desires His church to arise in prayer and saturate localities with the Gospel. We are also called to be Jesus' hands and feet for such a time as this.

At the same time, we need to also appreciate that each of us is uniquely gifted:

1 Corinthians 12:4–6 “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.”

1 Corinthians 12:12 “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:27 “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”

We are enabled to pray by the Lord. Yet we are also uniquely created by Him, as it is written:

Psalms 139:14 “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.”

As prayer warriors, I urge you to ask the Lord to reveal how you can maximize what He has gifted you with—particularly in the aspect of prayer and intercession. There is no need to compare yourself with others. Be who God has wired you to be as an intercessor.



After all, we are called to imitate Jesus:

1 Corinthians 11:1 “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Greatest Intercessor!

1. The Power of Working as a Team

We are to pray and intercede as led by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. Whilst doing so, let us also work together with other prayer leaders and warriors—for they are our teammates.

There is a crucial check and balance to safeguard us when we cooperate as a cohesive praying team. By working together, we function as an effective unit that pushes forward God’s agenda for this world.

God values spiritual and heartfelt unity amongst His people—especially in prayer, as we engage in spiritual warfare against the enemy. We need to unite in seeking God’s face and His strategies to combat the enemy. There are many lives at stake.

Psalms 133:1,3 “Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity... For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.”

2. The Power of Being Utilized in Our God-Anointed Capacity

When we function as a team, let us also learn to appreciate the different prayer anointings and dimensions. All these come from our Heavenly Father. It is He who is at work in all of us. We do not rely on our own strength.

Here’s an example of how this may look in a local church setting:

- Some intercessors may be energized to pray through a list of concerns, upholding church planters and missions across the globe.
- Others may serve as personal intercessors for particular pastors, church planters, and missionaries, covering their crusades and pioneering efforts.



- Some may lift up the needs of local pastors and missionaries before God.
- Others, with spiritual antennas tuned to the Lord, may pray as they hear directly from Him and respond to urgent prayer alerts for breakthroughs and divine intervention.
- Warfare intercessors may fight demonic forces, uncovering and breaking spiritual strongholds in localities or nations.
- Some may carry a burden for souls and pray fervently for salvation.
- Others may intercede for the ministries of the local church—teaching, outreaches, and discipleship.
- Still others may stand in the gap for breakthrough in worship, so that God's presence and glory may saturate the church and minister to lives.

Noteworthy:

Each of us has a different metron (sphere of influence) in prayer, based on the anointing God has given. As God's children, I believe each of us has received a portion of His heart to intercede and His enablement to pray for people in this lost and dying world.

In the next couple of podcasts on Standing in the Gap, we will learn to discover how God has wired us and how to utilize our specific prayer gifting for His glory—while working as a team with other intercessors. It is absolutely vital for us to always maintain a heart of general intercession, for we are one body in Christ.





Discussion Questions

These questions could be done personally or as part of a group discussion.

1. Share one or two occasions when you and others interceded as one team and witnessed change from the Lord.
2. Prayerfully and humbly consider times when you noticed your prayers were more anointed. What were some of those prayer requests about? Give the glory back to God.





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