

Episode 027

Thriving Prayer List Intercessor Series : Standing In The Gap

Introduction

Prayer list intercessors are reliable and systematic. These prayer warriors encourage and strengthen us with their faithful love and dependable loyalty in praying through matters.

They are persevering and disciplined, praying through the entire list of concerns entrusted to them. These servants of God diligently cover others in prayer as specified.

A thriving prayer list intercessor often prays independently. To others, interceding through a list of prayer concerns may seem confining or even boring. But those who pray through every prayer point are anointed for such a sphere of intercession.

Nevertheless, it is equally important not to impose one's prayer "niche" or focus on others who may need diversity in how they pray.

Remember, we can always work together as a team and give each other room to thrive. A great example of an intercessor is Ezra — a man after God's own prayer list. Ezra was one who recorded and listed matters in all of his writings.

Ezra 7:27–28 (NIV) 27 "Praise be to the LORD, the God of our ancestors, who has put it into the king's heart to bring honor to the house of the LORD in Jerusalem in this way 28 and who has extended his good favor to me before the king and his advisers and all the king's powerful officials. Because the hand of the LORD my God was on me, I took courage and gathered leaders from Israel to go up with me."



God's Grace for Those Who Thrive on Praying Through a List

We need to bear in mind that the Lord may also require us to team up with our leaders while we pray through the list of concerns. We may sometimes see this as a diversion from our usual prayer rhythm. Yet, let's learn to submit ourselves to our leaders. I believe God will grant us His grace to work with others.

This is equally true for those who find praying through a list somewhat restrictive or structured. You can still work together with those who prefer it.

Your heart attitude toward prayer is always more important to God than your performance in prayer.

Intercessors who normally pray through lists for the church, missionaries, or nations come before God with their assigned lists, seeking His direction for the people and issues on His heart.

These faithful prayer warriors pray through the list, sometimes spending hours praying Scriptures over those the Lord has assigned to them.

Those who are on the frontlines of extending God's Kingdom—such as in pioneering, church planting, or missions—are especially blessed to have the intercessory covering of a prayer warrior who diligently prays through an assigned list. Such intercessors cover others well in the Lord on a daily basis.



Some Aspects to Watch Out for When Praying Through a List

Intercessors who thrive in praying through lists need to remain humble, especially when we may think we've been very faithful in intercession and begin to view our prayer lives as superior. We must guard against being judgmental toward others who may not be able to pray through the entire list.

We need to ensure our focus remains on the Father's heart and the leading of the Spirit, rather than merely completing our prepared list. We must also not feel guilty for not finishing the entire list. God is not looking at our performance—He is looking at our hearts when we pray and seek His face.

Sometimes, answers to prayer may seem delayed, and the list of prayer items may keep growing. We need to watch that we don't give up praying or become overwhelmed and frustrated.

You may have been created with a need for structured prayer, but let there be flexibility in being led by the Lord! After all, we are to intercede by the grace and strength of the Lord.

Be open and flexible to God's direction—whether to add or remove names, places, or issues from your list—especially when you sense release from the Lord after praying through them.

Let God's joy undergird your intercession, even if the list seems long. Allow your love for Jesus to shape your prayers for His people.

You can even consider incorporating times of worship into your prayer moments.

Whether you are new to intercession or a seasoned prayer warrior, extend grace to yourself. Your heart attitude is always more important to God than your performance in prayer.

Always seek to remain pure in motivation as you serve the Lord in intercession. Let's honor our covenant of prayer before the Lord and those on our lists—while depending fully on His grace.





Discussion Questions

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

1. Do you identify with any of these characteristics of a prayer warrior who thrives on praying through a list of concerns?
2. What is one takeaway you have gained from being faithful in praying for others?





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