

A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER AND  
ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

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## ABSTRACT

This essay is titled, "A Biblical Perspective of Intercessory Prayer and its Implications for the Ministry of the Church". The place of intercessory prayer has been neglected in some churches today. The writer sees the need for intercession as a tool for Church growth. Therefore, he is concerned for mode of prayer to reflect what the Bible teaches.

The essay has five chapters. Chapter one deals with preliminary materials such as background to the study, statement of the problem, methodology of the study, and definition of key terms. In chapter two, books related to the subject were reviewed. Chapter three, which is the backbone of the essay, addresses biblical perspective of intercessory prayer.

Chapter four explains the implications of intercessory prayer for the ministry of the Church. Chapter five of the essay serves as the summary, conclusion, and recommendations that will help in improving the intercessory ministry of the Church.

## 5.2 Conclusion

The result of this study has revealed that the place of intercession is neglected in the contemporary churches. If the self-centered mode of prayer continues, the church of God would suffer a lot of set back. Intercession should be seen as one of the tools for church growth. God always communicates with his people when they call upon Him. As the Lord made His acts known to Moses, so also God will make His acts known to the church.

The work also reveals that pastors need intercession. Due to the nature of their work, intercession should be made for them daily. The church will also see the result of intercessory prayer raised for pastors, who will be spiritually fit and fortified for the work of the ministry.

This essay has explained that intercessory prayer is needed to fight against the attack of the church. The Scripture says "... the prayer of a righteous man has great power in it" (Jam. 5:16). The battle of the church is primarily against the devil and his cohorts, and this should be fought jointly in prayer. In fighting this battle, we need to be focused.

Likewise, cooperation is needed between intercessors and pastors. Both intercessors and pastors should know that they are working for the

same reward. Therefore, the work of God does not call for competition or pride.

### 5.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings of this research, the following recommendations are made; In the first place, pastors should teach church members the art of intercession. Teaching will help them to discover the secret and benefits of intercession for the ministries of the church.

The researcher further recommends that every pastor should share his vision to the members of the church. If this is done they will know what to pray for, and they will have burden to pray as Nehemiah did in his days.

Besides, pastors should intercede for the members of the churches privately. The intercession of the pastors should be focusing on the expansion of the kingdom of God. Pastors should ask the members to pray for them, Paul asked the Colossians to pray for him.

The intercessors should use the Scriptures to pray rather than their feelings or emotions to lead prayer. Also, intercessors should see intercession as their ministry.

Lastly, intercessors should cooperate with their pastors. They should see them as their leaders and submit to their leadership. Observations and revelations should be presented to pastors with humility.