



Creating LifeLines In A Broken World

WEEK 3 DISCUSSION GUIDE

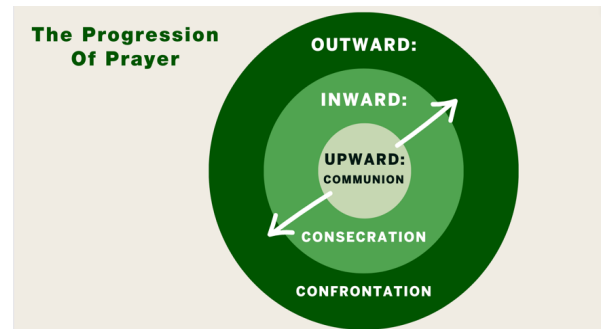
Overview

In this message of the *LifeLine* series, we will discuss Outward Prayer and how intercession can have an eternal impact on our world.

Discussion

When we begin our prayer time, we should start with Upward prayer—praising God for who He is. Outward prayer is when we pray for others and intercede on their behalf. When we partner with God and intercede, we will see God do the miraculous.

- How does starting our prayer time with Upward prayer, praising God for who He is, set the tone for our entire prayer experience?



As we partner with God, we can create a lifeline in a broken world. In Job 16:18-21, Job cries out, and his pain is so great that his friends are speechless for days: ***“Earth, do not cover my blood; may my cry never be laid to rest! Even now my witness is in heaven; my advocate is on high. My intercessor is my friend as my eyes pour out tears to God; on behalf of a man he pleads with God as one pleads for a friend.”*** Job realized he was in desperate need for an intercessor since his friends did not intercede for him. God has given us a privilege to intercede for others through prayer. Through intercession, we can touch a loved one who we may not even speak to.

- The concept of Outward Prayer involves praying for others and interceding on their behalf. Can you share a personal experience where you’ve seen the benefits or miracles that come from intercession?

Hebrews 7:25: Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. Jesus is praying for us. He understands that intercession and connection with the Father is the most powerful thing we can be doing. And He invites us to join Him to intercede and see our world changed. One of the reasons Jesus wants to create this lifeline is that once we begin to understand this lifeline, we can create it for others.

- How does the concept of Jesus making intercession for us impact your understanding of prayer and its significance in your spiritual journey?
- How can we actively share the concept of intercession with others and encourage them to draw near to God through this powerful practice?

What happens when we intercede, when we pray? **Acts 10:1-5: *There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius...a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!...Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God. Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter."*** Two things leave an eternal legacy: giving to the kingdom of God and prayer. This man's giving and prayer didn't just create something on the earth, it created a memorial in heaven and left a lasting impact on us today.

- How can our giving and prayers create a lasting impact not only in our lives but also in the lives of others? Can you share examples from your own experiences?

Prayer creates the rain of revival. **Zechariah 10:1: *Ask the LORD for rain In the time of the latter rain. The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, Grass in the field for everyone.*** The clouds of God's presence are lingering. Our prayers can turn these clouds into rain clouds that will shower the earth with His presence. Prayer releases the might of God.

- How does this imagery of rain clouds impact your view of the relationship between prayer and experiencing God's presence? Can you share personal experiences where prayer seemed to bring about a tangible manifestation of God's presence?

In **Acts 1:14**, the apostles prayed for 10 days. In **Acts 2:1-3**, within days, there was a church of 20,000. Prayer lights the fuse and the power of God. In **Acts 12:5-7**, when Peter was in prison, the church began to pray, and an angel shattered the prison doors during the night and set Peter free. What we can't reach with our words, we can reach with prayer. Right before our breakthrough comes, it gets dark. In our midnight hour, when it's too dark to see what God's doing, our prayer, our intercession, releases the power of God. Prayer will shake the prison that others are in. Sometimes we feel that if we can't touch someone personally, there's no hope. But if we touch God on behalf of another person, there's always hope.

The cycle of promises, prayers, praises, and perseverance is the key to developing a lifestyle of persevering prayer.

How do we maintain faith for days, weeks, months? The average Christian stops praying because:

1. Unbelief
2. Praying so long they've given up hope
3. Their prayer is not a conversation—it's a monologue

- Have you experienced any of the three reasons people stop praying? How can we grow in those areas?

Romans 10:8-9, 17: “...*The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart*” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation...*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Confession and belief. When our heart is connected with our mouth, faith grows. If we only battle with our heart and mind, we will lose. We must agree with our mouths and speak God’s Word over every situation and believe in our hearts that it is done. We must maintain the faith in our hearts by speaking the promises out of our mouths. We can stop begging God for what He’s already promised us and start confessing it. We should praise God as if it’s already done. Prayer knows no boundaries but God’s Word.

- What is the significance between confessing and believing? Why are both critical to our faith and intercession?

This cycle will bring perseverance. The lie of the enemy is we’re powerless to make a difference in our lives, church, community, and world. Through our prayer, impossibility becomes improbable.

- Reflecting on the idea of creating a lifeline in a broken world through partnering with God, what practical steps can we take to be intentional about interceding for others and making a positive impact in the lives of those around us?

Life Challenge

Partner with God and start praying and believing for the impossible. Create a plan of prayer and praise to help you maintain your prayers of intercession and perseverance until you see God move.

Prayer Requests & Close In Prayer