

Video 3B

Step #2. Intercessory Prayer; Inviting God's Engagement



During Peter's imprisonment and after his release the early Church was intentional about prayer. When battling the Amalekites, both Joshua's role of fighting and Moses' role of intercession were essential. Seeking vision in the context of prayer, and then the intercessory work of praying it into reality, is the key to engaging in the Lord's programs and initiatives. The leader's practical task is to cultivate this type of prayer in the local congregation, prayer is the means that God has given us to invite his engagement in his own work.

GtC p.129

God is sovereign...but He waits for our invitation

- ❖ John 11:3 – Lazarus' sisters asked
- ❖ Acts 12:5 – the church asked
- ❖ Luke 10:2 – God waiting to be asked

“There is nothing that we can expect from the Lord, for which we are not also told to pray. Prayer digs up the treasures...”

John Calvin, Institutes of Christian Religion 3:20:2

The Moses-Joshua partnership

- ❖ Exodus 17:8-16 – battle with Amalekites
- ❖ Paul's requests for prayer support (Eph 6:19-20 ; Col 4:3-4 ; 2 Thess 3:1-2)
- ❖ CH Spurgeon's "boiler room" prayer team

Moses – receiving vision for the people

- ❖ Not imagining & dreaming up our desired future, but receiving the picture of God's intended future

“Where there is no revelation the people cast off constraint.”

Proverbs 29:18

Cultivating intercessory prayer in the congregation

1. Teach the people *how* to pray
2. Leaders *vulnerable* enough to ask people to pray for and with them
3. *Create* contexts and opportunities for prayer
4. Identify and equip *intercessors*