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Prayer - Your Foundation For Success

7. Intercessory Prayer

This chapter teaches that intercession is prayer on behalf of others, a ministry God has called the whole Body of Christ to take up. The author ties it to a last-days outpouring of the Holy Spirit and a great harvest of souls, arguing that God acts in the earth through praying people. It then explains practically how to intercede, especially by praying in tongues and yielding to the Holy Spirit.

Key takeaways

- Intercession means praying for others; Scripture calls believers to pray for all people, including those in authority.
- God works in the earth through the cooperation of man, so prayer is how His power is released into situations and lives.
- Jesus came as the great intercessor and still intercedes; believers wear the same armor and share the same ministry of reconciliation.
- Intercession is the highest expression of love — laying down your time and self for someone else, including those blinded by Satan.

- Praying in tongues is the key tool: your spirit prays beyond your limited knowledge, and the Holy Spirit prays God's perfect will through you.
- Spiritual birth comes through travail; you must stir yourself up and take the position of intercession rather than wait for a feeling.
- Start where you are — pick a family, city, or nation — bind the enemy, and persevere without quitting; the person still makes their own choice.

Passages worth keeping

> *"Intercession is the highest expression of love. It is loving in the spirit, applying spiritual power for another person."*

Defines the chapter's core claim about what intercession is.

> *"The Spirit also [takes hold together with us against] our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought."*

Explains why praying in the Spirit reaches past our own knowledge.

How it connects

The chapter frames the believer as Zion (Hebrews 12:22-23) who travails (Isaiah 66:8, Galatians 4:19) to give spiritual birth, linking Old Testament images of labor and rain to the New Testament ministry of reconciliation.

Scripture referenced

- **1 Timothy 2:1-4** -- The command to intercede for all people and those in authority.
- **Acts 2:16-21** -- The last-days outpouring of the Spirit and that whoever calls on the Lord is saved.
- **John 7:38** -- Rivers of living water flowing out of the believer — the source of signs and wonders.
- **Isaiah 59:16** -- God looks for an intercessor; Jesus becomes the arm that brings salvation.
- **Romans 8:26-27** -- The Spirit helps our weakness and intercedes according to God's will.
- **John 14:12** -- Believers are to do the works Jesus did, grounding their call to intercede.