Hagin, Kenneth E.
The Art of Prayer

9. The Prayer Life of the Believer

Chapter Six teaches that prayer—petitions, intercessions, and thanksgiving for all people, including leaders—belongs at the top of the believer's prayer life. It grounds our right to intercede in our union with Jesus, the Great Intercessor. Because we are one with Him, His intercessory ministry becomes ours.

Key takeaways

- Paul commands that prayer and intercession for all people, especially those in authority, come first—not as an afterthought.
- We can legally intercede because we are joined to Christ and share in His body; He is the Head, we are the Body, one in His work.
- As members of Christ we partake in His ministry of reconciliation, serving as ambassadors who plead with others to be reconciled to God.
- Real intercession requires identification: entering into the burden of those we pray for, rejoicing and weeping with them.

- Jesus is our pattern—He emptied Himself and identified fully with fallen man to bring our deliverance; we identify through love and compassion.

Passages worth keeping

> *"He is our great Intercessor... As members of His Body, the Church, we partake in that intercession."*

States the chapter's core basis for why believers can and must intercede

How it connects

The chapter ties believing prayer to the incarnation: as Christ identified with us to redeem us, we identify with others to intercede for them.

Scripture referenced

- **1 Timothy 2:1,2** -- Command to put intercession for all men and rulers first
- **1 Corinthians 6:17** -- Joined to the Lord, we are one spirit—basis of union
- **2 Corinthians 5:18-20** -- Our shared ministry of reconciliation as ambassadors
- **Romans 12:15** -- Identification: rejoice and weep with others
- **Philippians 2:7,8** -- Christ identifying with man as the model intercessor