

Spirit of Intercession.

Today is the first Saturday of the year. Its also the first “intercession Saturday” and I am very excited. I plan to keep my message short so that we can spend time offering intercessory prayers to the Lord.

Intercession is a very wide and deep topic. Whatever I will say today is a drop in the ocean and its by no means comprehensive or prescriptive. Having said that, I have some dot points as a foundation for our focus today:

- Jesus is our chief intercessor
- Jesus extended this ministry to us (His body)
- It’s the Holy Spirit who intercedes through us
- Intercession is 100% of the Spirit, we are the vessels, He is the treasure

DRINK OFFERING.

I have been meditating about drink offerings. It was a wine offering that accompanied every sacrifice under the old covenant. An offering was not complete until the drink offering was given. It complemented the main offering. Of course, this was symbolic of Christ and was fulfilled at the inauguration of the new covenant. Luke 22:20 *This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood*

Drink offering is also mentioned in the New Testament. It references the ministry of Jesus in us as members of His body. It is important to stress that our intercession is based on our capacity as members of the body of Christ.

Philippians 2 ¹⁷ *But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice **with all** of you.*

- The main offering: “sacrifice coming from your faith”.
Romans 12:1, *I exhort you, therefore, brothers, in view of God's mercies, to **offer yourselves as a sacrifice, living and set apart for God.***
- The drink offering: members of the body that labour in prayer with us.
Ephesians 4 ¹¹ *Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.*

Prayer points:

(i) prayer

Father, we thank you your great love. You demonstrated this by the sacrificial death of Jesus. He was poured out like a drink offering. They pierced Him and our atonement witnessed by the three witnesses in one accord: Spirit, water and blood.

Thank you, Jesus, because you understand, relate, in touch, compassionate. You did not just act as advocate, but you took our position. You took our accused position and the resulting punishment.

Today, we give you unlimited access to ourselves. With the same anointing, the Spirit of the Lord being upon us, please use us to bring hope to the hopeless, healing to the sick, faith to those afraid and the boldness to declare to the nations that this is the year of jubilee.

(ii) Collectively pray for Families

(iii) Collectively pray for the Church (local fellowships and the global body of Christ).