

## **“Intervention” Prayer Group – Guide Sheet for Facilitating**

**What it is:** intending to change outcomes of situations; in a collision of kingdoms, we can call upon all the resources of heaven for intervention including the service of angels.

Proclaiming truth – invoking the Kingdom – enforcing God’s declarations

**Thoughts about this kind of prayer:** These are not “zap prayers” – they require earnest and strenuous praying. These take time and repetition, often circling back around to items as we “drill down” to what God is after, adding something new, growing momentum.

“ektenos” – Greek word for “praying earnestly”, the same kind of prayer that Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane.

This time is to allow us to tune into and align with God as His partners in prayer.

Effectiveness is enhanced as we get agreement with others. Although we’re often taught that repetition is unnecessary, scripture shows otherwise. *Motive*, not the *repetition* is important. Effective prayer is like the felling of a great tree – sometimes many blows are required. The Psalms are filled with repetition – e.g. Psalms 136: 1-9. Daniel repeated some of his prayers; Elijah did as well.

Human beings are meant to intervene, to engage, to make a difference. It’s in our Kingdom DNA.

### **Some Other Scriptural Examples:**

**Acts 12:1-17** Peter was in jail and the church prayed him out. It wasn’t a quick prayer time.

**Matthew** is filled with Kingdom instances: **Matt 4:23** – preaching the good news and healing; **Matt 9:35** – Jesus teaching, preaching, healing – all part of the Good News of the Kingdom; **Matt 24:14** – “..this Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations....”;

**Matt 16:19** – I give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

**Helps:** We *can* be people trained in the ways of the Kingdom. It’ll be helpful to share these with your group.

- We know who we are in the Kingdom of God – not orphans, but sons & daughters, friends and allies
- Believe that intervening prayer is more than simply asking God to do something
- Understand authority we’ve been given and bold enough to use it
- Choose to unite with others in prayer in order to increase effectiveness.
- Accept the truth that the authority we’ve been given extends over creation.

**Facilitating it today:** There will likely be 12-15 people in this group. You’ll have about 35-40 minutes of actual time praying together, after the few minutes it takes to hear some instruction from the front, get into breakout groups, and before the final 15 minutes during which there will be group worship as prayer items are taken to the cross on the stage.

Choosing key topics together based on headlines/photos and putting them into a collage is a good way to integrate some “hands on” creative work for those who respond well to this.

Those for whom it’s strange get a chance to grow!

**Values:** Specific kind of prayer, listening/working together, making it visual – especially helpful for people who connect to this (includes how younger people like to pray), praying together, having a visual reminder of that time.

**First 5 minutes:**

1. Give people time to move tables/chairs over to your designated corner and get settled
2. Read or paraphrase the ideas above: What it Is; Thoughts about this Kind of Prayer; Scriptural Examples; Helps; brief description of what to do.
3. Put out the photos and headlines of issues around the UK and the world you've been given.

**Next 10 minutes:**

4. Ask people to look through the headlines/photos and choose 5 – 8 key ones that the group agrees on.
5. Use these to formulate what God your prayer time. having you pray into.

**Next 15-20 minutes:**

6. Designate 1-2 people to affix those photos/headlines/issues onto A3 paper as a collage as others begin to pray. This collage is a visual reminder of what's being prayed and will be the "gift" laid on the cross in the Large Group Time (last 15 minutes of this hour). This shouldn't take long; they'll be able to enter into prayer, too.
7. Use this time to pray into those issues.

**Last 15 minutes:** Group Worship and laying prayer group "gifts" around the cross.

8. All groups will bring their separate times to a close and begin to make their way to their seats or remain standing as we worship together.
9. Those who are taking things to the cross begin to form queues to walk up the steps.
10. The Facilitator and maybe someone else from the group together take the collage to the cross on the stage and lay this at the end of the left "arm" of it. This will be this group's "gift" to the Lord