

PC 20
Intercessory Prayer: Invoking the Holy Spirit

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An intercessory prayer is when we pray for others.



Image by Barbara Jackson, Pixabay

These days my spirit is heavy with thoughts of so much suffering worldwide.

- natural disasters—wildfires, floods and earthquakes,
- human created suffering—mass shootings, suicides, drug overdoses,
- unspeakable violence—mass evacuations and the horror of not being able to evacuate, hospitals bombed, and not enough humanitarian being delivered to address urgent daily and life and death needs.
- Thousands dead including over 4,000 children

Suffering and grief are unspeakable... no tears left... we are numb!

Oh Lord! Have mercy on us!

My heart turns to the pressing prayer needs of my own family and my church family
There are so many urgent prayer requests, known and unknown.

Rather than share a well-known intercessory prayer today, I humbly share my own prayer, enabled by the Holy Spirit.

*Oh Lord! How do I pray?
How do I stand in the gap for such pressing needs?
I am so humbled. I feel unworthy to pray.
The needs are so great. So tragic. So overwhelming.
My mind fears. My heart hurts. My spirit spirals.
Please Holy Spirit: Clear my chaotic mind. Help me accept my heart's pain.
Lighten my downcast spiraling spirit.*

*Please Holy Spirit come.
Help me to pray fervently and unceasingly.
Put unspoken words into my mind and mouth
Intercede Holy Spirit for all the world's sufferings.
Change the intentions of the nations
Change our individual hearts
Help us to seek Peace and be Peace.*

I pause in my praying and pleading. I slowly let go.
I surrender my doubts and fears and needs and desires.
My mind is quieting.
My heart is healing.
My spirit is lifting.
I am in a sacred place.
The "I" of me is accepting the "I Am" of God.
In Holy Space I linger and wait.
No thoughts. No words. No emotions. No sense of time.
Peace.
Later, I slowly return from this timeless Beyond.
My human thoughts slowly creep in and my spirit whispers:

*I believe. I receive. Thank you Abba, Father. May it come to be: Thy Will be done.
In the blessed Name of Jesus, I pray.*

Amen

Close your eyes, open your hearts, and listen to this hymn.

Come Holy Spirit, I Need You

<https://youtu.be/w7Zp9AF1MMs>