

Intercede / Watchmen

[This morning Yoneq asked one of our guests what keeps him from raising his hands. After hearing a little bit from this guest about where he was at, we lifted up our sacrifice. Immediately after we said "Amen" and the men lowered their hands, Yoneq questioned us:]

Why didn't we intercede? WHY did no one pray for these guests who are here with us? Does the Holy Spirit not want us to pray for them? Is there no one with the Holy Spirit living in them who is moved to pray for them? Is there no hope for them? How is it that He did not put that prayer on anyone's heart? Why did we not intercede for them — for these guests here who we are laboring with, who desperately need salvation. Who stand here with us every morning and evening and they can't pray. Why did no one pray for them? Can it be that the Holy Spirit doesn't want them to be saved?

[Three or four people repented, including Bahirah, and Bahirah added this later:]

Bahirah: There were many things being prayed for but I really wanted to ask our Father to save His people — all those people in all those bad situations in the world. And only He knows who they are — the ones who will be saved. I wanted to ask that he would have mercy on them and I wanted to pray that he would open the hearts of our guests. And I was just about to pray but then another woman started praying and inside I reacted to how she was praying. She had so eloquently encapsulated the thrust of Yoneq's teaching of the day before. I got distracted and thrown off of *my* course. I started thinking that if I just said, "Father, save your people," or "Save our guests," or something like that, that it would sound so ... simple — like as if praying for all the people in the world to be saved was a small thing! Self concern, another spirit entered in and became more important than the Holy Spirit. The minute the men put their hands down and Yoneq started speaking, I knew I had done wrong. "Why didn't we intercede?" Because Bahirah got distracted by her self concern and felt like her 'little' prayer to open the guests hearts was ... too simple. But 1 Tim says to *intercede!* That's what you are supposed to *do!! Intercede!*

Paul says we are to intercede (1 Tim 2:8) because He desires *all* men would be saved. And there is only *one* mediator between God and man — Yahshua. So we are to pray for those who are lost — generally and specifically. Those in the world and the visitors who are living in our house. If we don't pray for them, who will? We have to intercede for them otherwise they'll never be saved. We must petition Him, *beg* Him, make pleas to Him — prayers of pleading. He needs to have a people who are praying for people — a people to bring the lost ones into. Otherwise when He gets His lost ones, we will treat them like you treat an unwanted child. You see people toting unwanted children around all the time. They give them chocolate and ice cream and sit them in front of the television and never discipline them. And if we don't want a new child, we'll never get any. But then when one *does* happen to come along, we'll ignore him, we won't discipline him — be stern with him, bend his neck; we won't put principles into him; we'll feed him junk. And that is why — because we never wanted them. People will never be saved if we don't pray for them with all of our heart. You can't fool our Father. You don't love anyone you don't pray for. If you don't love your wife, brother, sister, you don't pray for them. If you don't love our guests, you won't pray for them. *God* loves them. *He* wants *all* men to be saved. He died for *all* men that they wouldn't live for themselves anymore but for him. they have to sincerely desire to be saved and repent and we have to diligently pray for them. did you ever have an unwanted child — an accident? We have to *procreate* our spiritual children as well as our physical ones — not propagate like animals, but procreate God's highest creatures.

Watchmen

The watchmen have a marvelous responsibility. So much is spoken of the watchmen in the bible — watchmen in Israel, on the wall, watching day and night.

Our Father doesn't want the watchmen to pray *all* night, lest you repeat yourself over and over. But we can *always* praise — praise Him for everything that happens. He must continually be lifted up, from the rising of the sun to its setting — all night long. That is the watchmen's job — to continue to do that —

from the rising of the sun to the setting (from the setting to the rising). It changes your life drastically if you *praise* all the time and continue to give Him thanks and glorify Him from your heart. You can pray, but not for very long, because it's difficult to pray. But all day long you can praise and continue to give thanks. When you walk you pray and praise. If everyone was praising, we would be so empowered with the Holy Spirit that no one could stop us. Our Father in heaven would be glorified. We would turn the world upside down. How many millions of people are there on the earth? How many are praising Him with their lips? Are we praising Him, we, His very own people? If there is no praise in our hearts then there is no salvation going on in our hearts. For no matter what we are going through, we can praise and give thanks from the bottom of our heart, and it changes the whole situation. No one is giving our father any credit or any worship except us. Let's give Him what He deserves.

And, let's be attentive to the Holy Spirit from now on as far as praying for our guests. At least one person would lift them up and we would all say "Amen" to it. If we don't say "amen", then we have not all prayed. "Amen" is a confirmation; it is a commanding prayer that says, "Yes, I agree with that. Let it be so. Father hear that prayer. Let it be that the is prayer will be answered." If we are serious about this then He will answer our prayer. So let's be more attentive now in making intercession.

[We had a second chance; we made intercession asking for the salvation of all of our visitors.]

P.S. That night, six of our guests were baptized.