

*Hello! This is Dorothy-*

I want to encourage you to send for the book, *Food for Faith*. You might not have already done this. My husband wrote this book and there is a section to do with prayer, which will really transform your prayer life. I was just talking to a friend and she said what a great help it was to her, and I believe that is voiced by many, many people. We work at prayer and we seem to think it is something we do in our mind, but in this book there is a whole section on how to pray. I believe it is going to help you to apply what we are discussing over these few days, as we think about prayer.

We saw in the Word, in **Matthew 11:28-30**, how to understand from a devotional point of view of praying, and how the burden could be carried by the Lord. We thought also a little bit about intercessory prayer; praying for other people. We need to remember that Jesus is our Intercessor. We are not trying to get God's attention and waving a flag up there and thinking, "Well, perhaps He did not see the first one, so I will add a few more!" No, He is our Intercessor; He is our High Priest.

We are called also *believer priests* (with a small *p* of course). That means that He will pray through us. Isn't that incredible? When God prays, He will pray through us, offering prayers through us to fulfill His mighty workings. You know, that is an important aspect. When we understand that He wants to pray through us, we will understand that His heartbeat is not just for my locality, but it is for the world! He does not see groups of people like we see them; He sees precious lives for whom His

Son died. He also knows every person everywhere in the world who has put their trust in Him. They are very precious to Him. He chose them. They are part of His family. They are part of His Body.

It is a normal thing in a body that tells us something to do with each other. It is a system called osmosis, where the fluid passes from cell to cell, and life and nutrition passes from cell to cell. So it is with the family of God. When you hear about some Christian in need, God is not letting you know so that then you can have a *tut tut* and a discussion with your friend about who is doing what and why this is being allowed, but that you can bring that burden of the Spirit and pray for that person. You do not know what would happen if you were in that identical situation. Therefore, this is where, as a fellow believer and as a believer priest, we have the right to come and carry the burden of the Lord in how to pray for other people.

Praise God, I am sure people have prayed for me on many occasions, when they have seen so much that needed help from God and so many situations that needed turning around by the living Lord. Thank God for such prayers! I remember many years ago there was a missionary who was in a classroom exactly at the other end of the world. In the middle of teaching, she knew that God said she had to pray for me, and it was very urgent! She stopped the class, and she had the whole class pray for me. Now the children did not know who I was; the missionary hardly knew who I was, but she knew it was radical that everything stop and she prayed, as she was sensitive to the Lord. I was in a life-threatening situation at that time! I do not know how many other times people have prayed or will pray. It might not be what I think is the most frightening situation to be in. It could be that today I am not walking dependent upon the Lord. You might see another and you feel they need to understand this. It is not by your

preaching so much as your praying and the love of God flowing through your heart that will make this possible.

So, we are going to read in **Hebrews 12** where it says -

**2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. . .**

**15 Looking diligently, lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.** We see in others bitterness and jealousy and hurts and reactions and we could perhaps isolate ourselves from those dear sisters or perhaps we will let the Lord, from this day forth, love them as we intercede for them, and as we begin to believe that their lives are precious before God and that the best will yet happen through them, as the Lord uses everything they are going through to bring them to the complete end of themselves, so that their lives will be explained in terms of the living Christ only. The Lord bless you as you apply this and allow this to happen in your life, as a member of the family of God, to effect so many people around the world.

*In Jesus' wonderful Name. Amen.*