

Can You Move Heaven for Earth?

Genesis 18:16-33

“Intercessory prayer is prayer for others. An intercessor is one who takes the place of another or pleads another’s case... In intercessory prayer, we follow the Old Testament priestly function and the New Testament pattern of Jesus—standing before God and between a righteous God and sinful man.” <http://www.allaboutprayer.org/intercessory-prayer.htm>

Prayer is a conversation with a friend (16-21)

- God reveals his plans to Abraham (16-17)
- Abraham is to bring blessing to the world (18)
- Abraham is to teach about justice (19)
- God will dispense justice to Sodom (20-21)

God responds to his friends’ intercession (22-33)

- Abraham’s prayer is:
 - Modest – Abraham doesn’t pry into details or ask why
 - Humble (27) – Abraham recognizes his place and position
 - Persistent (24-32) – Abraham intercedes six times and becomes bolder with each request
 - Persuasive (25, 32) – Abraham pleads for God’s own character and glory

What should we do?

- Understand God’s plan and our role in helping to carry it out
- Intercede for those who need mercy