

Hi, I'm Crawford Loritts with a Legacy Moment. Not all prayers capture God's attention.

When our children were small, Karen and I learned to distinguish the sounds they made. For example, often they were playing in another room, and there were pleasant sounds of laughter or conversation. We didn't pay much attention to those sounds. However, there was one discernable sound that grabbed our attention, the sound that says, "I need some intervention."

That is sort of the way it is with meaningful prayer, effective prayer. All meaningful, effective prayer is an intentional cry for help. The goal of prayer is God's intervention on our behalf. Let me underscore that again. The goal of prayer is God's intervention, His coming alongside—coming down, identifying with our situation, and making His presence known. He wants to intervene on our behalf. So we're praying, "God I need you to intervene."

Ephesians chapter 6, verses 18 and 19, says; "With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf that utterance maybe given to me in the opening of my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the Gospel."

Here the Apostle Paul frames prayer by saying effective praying means we're filled and directed by the Holy Spirit, and we're alert in prayer. Effective praying also honors God's purposes. Paul says, "Please pray for me. Pray for the spread of the Gospel. We need God's supernatural intervention. Let the spirit of God guide you. Be aware of what's going on." Then make sure we're focusing our prayers on God's supernatural purposes for mankind.

Here's what I want you to remember today. The goal of prayer is to capture God's attention and to have Him intervene on our behalf. Let's examine our hearts. Let's take prayer seriously.