

## **“Rewards You Can Count On”**

Romans 8:34

Tuesday Bible Lunch

October 1, 2019

**Introduction:** Many businesses offer rewards.

- Starbucks gives points based on purchases for free drinks and food.
- Talbots sends vouchers for previous purchases for specified amounts of money off your next purchase.
- CVS has just started a program called CarePass.
- Motels give a free night after staying a specified number of nights.
- Restaurants have reward programs.
- Airlines have reward programs for miles flown or for dollars spent using their credit card. In yesterday’s USA, there was a big article about airline reward programs. The article pointed out how getting the rewards was not always a sure thing.

**T.S.** Today, I want us to think about a reward that is a sure thing.

- Praying for other people (intercession) is one of the most rewarding things you can do.
- Intercession is simply standing in the gap in prayer for another person.
- This is what Jesus does for us.
- While Jesus was in the world He talked to people about God and He talked to God about people. Now Jesus is in heaven interceding for us.

**Text:** Romans 8:34

- Hebrews 7:25 is helpful at this point.
- “He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:25).

I believe some people are *called* to be intercessors, but anyone can intercede for another person in prayer. We do it all the time.

- People pray for their spouses.
- People pray for their children.
- People pray for their parents.
- People pray for their friends.

**PRAYING FOR OTHERS IS ONE OF THE MOST REWARDING THINGS YOU CAN DO.**

- 1. When you pray for others, it gets your focus off yourself and your problems. (GREAT REWARD!!)**

**Illustration:** In the last five months, I have seen this watching Dottie pray one by one for those who sent her cards.

- 2. When you pray for others, you get to see prayers answered. (GREAT REWARD!!)**

- 3. When you pray for others, your attitude improves. (GREAT REWARD!!)**

- 4. When you pray for others, you grow spiritually. (GREAT REWARD!!)**

- You will grow spiritually because when you pray for other people you will be doing what God told you to do.
- The Bible says, “I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men” (1 Timothy 2:1).

- 5. When you pray for others and then you have needs, there will be intercessors for you. (GREAT REWARD!!)**

- The Bible teaches this.
- The Bible says, “Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap” (Galatians 6:7).

**Illustration:** Intercession is a boomerang.

**Application:** In the last five months, Dottie and I have seen this happen to us. The many prayers of intercession that we have prayed for others have been prayed for us a hundredfold!!

**Conclusion:** Praying for other people is one of the most rewarding things you can do!!