

## Celebration of Discipline 3: PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1. **REMEMBERING** What are the greatest challenges you face when it comes to praying for others consistently or praying at all?
2. **REFLECTING** When do you find yourself most motivated to pray for others? List some conditions that seem to be present when you find praying for others easy.
3. **DISCOVERING** Romans 8:34 assures us that the very thing with which we often struggle—intercessory prayer—Jesus does for us continually: “*Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.*” Meditate on that verse for a moment and try to use your imagination.
  - If you could hear Jesus prayers on your behalf right now, what might He be praying for you?
  - What might He be praying for MJCOG? (Again, the question is not what *you* would be praying, but what you think *He’d* be praying.)
4. **CONNECTING** How could we join with Christ in prayer for ourselves and for the church? What do you think Christ wants us to be praying about?
5. **RESPONDING** Choose one of the following responses, a combination, or come up with your own.
  - a. Spend some time in prayer interceding for one another
  - b. Spend some time in prayer interceding for the church
  - c. Take time to meditate on Christ’s ministry of intercession and simply listen for what He might be praying, then share your thoughts with one another
  - d. Come up with your own response that is meaningful to you and your group

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**I have been benefited by praying for others; for by making an errand to God for them I have gotten something for myself.**

- Samuel Rutherford, 17<sup>th</sup> century Scottish clergyman