

(Praying, Listening, and Tracking what the Lord speaks during Intercession)

Many of us have had the experience of spending refreshing and re-envisioning times of prayer with the Lord, or times of powerful intercession for our target people groups or ministry needs. Perhaps less common is the same sort of time with the Lord where we, as the intercessors, actively listen to the Lord and make space for Him to speak, and so inform our prayers and intercession. Even less common is when we do all of the above, but also write down what we hear the Lord saying in a place or in a way that we will recall it in future times of prayer and intercession.

I'd like to encourage all of our teams to engage in regular times of focused prayer and intercession for their work, and even more to make room during those times to genuinely pause, be still, and listen to what the Lord wants to communicate in the context of community. But even perhaps even more important for sustained intercession around a topic, need, or ministry focus, is keeping track of what the Lord has spoken. Those who already do this generally will write down what they are sensing from the Lord in a journal or other safe place which they may (or more likely may not) reference again later. The only problem with that method is that for the purposes of sustained intercession around a need or situation in a communal or team context, writing down what the Lord is saying in one person's journal limits access to those pictures, Scriptures, encouragements or admonishments, and they are also easy to forget.

Perhaps a better way, referenced somewhat in the interview posted [here](#) with Jack in Asia, is to write those sorts of things down on a whiteboard that remains in view during times of intercession. Of course this would require a few things: (1) at least a semi-secure environment or an ability to write things in a secure yet understandable way for future reference (2) a constant meeting place for times of intercession (an office, a home, etc. because large white boards are not very mobile) and (3) a whiteboard dedicated to the purpose - one that would not need to be erased after every time of intercession and listening.

In the interview above, Jack mentions his team's habit of tracking what the Lord says, what He repeats, and what He seems to be highlighting in other ways. As the team hears things more than once, they move those things to another part of the white board for more serious consideration.

In our experience in SE Asia, we have tried to always keep at least one white board in our office available for writing down impressions, encouragements, or things to pray into. Those boards start very empty, but over time fill up with repeated times of prayer and intercession, and serve at least two purposes: (1) they provide lots of fodder for future times of prayer and (2) they help us remember things that the Lord has brought to mind, especially things that have been repeated or emphasized in other ways.

Of course, as in some prayer rooms, you could get creative with artistic writing or drawing pictures the Lord gives, or these boards could be more business-like; though most likely