



The Holy Spirit - Our Helper In Prayers

“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God” (Romans 8:26-27).



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“For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father” (Ephesians 2:18).

Prayer is extremely important to the Christian walk. The secret to Jesus' success was constant communion with God. Every believer need it. **“Pray without ceasing”** (1 Thessalonians 5:16) is not a nice suggestion but a command to all Christians. Observing this is so arduous to some as climbing a mountain because they don't know what to pray about and their prayer experiences is like banging on a closed door. Our text provide the answers to these problems by showing us how The Holy Spirit helps the believer to maintain an effective prayer life, as well as make our prayers acceptable to God.

The original Hebrew word interpreted as intercession in verse 26 has a different meaning to the one in verse 27, and provide insight into two of the functions of the Holy Spirit in relation to prayer:

- [1] In verse 26 the word means that the Holy Spirit goes with us to the Father to help plead for our needs.
- [2] In verse 27 the word means that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, i.e. the Holy Spirit coming before God for us, on our behalf and telling God about the needs we have forgotten to ask for, or did not even know that we had. There is a salient lesson to learn here - that if we only received from God what we asked for, we would not get everything that we actually needed. This verse teaches us that even when we don't know what to pray for, the Spirit makes intercession for us. This is why “Praying in the Holy Ghost” (Jude 1:20) makes the believers prayer effective.

As a faithful intercessor, the Holy Spirit makes

sure that the believer gets all of the things (including those that the believer would not have chosen for himself/herself) that will work together for his/her good. To illustrate, a child asks the father for a bicycle. The child's primary objective is to have enjoyment and fun with the bicycle. The loving father buys the bicycle, but in addition to it also buys things the child did not ask for - a helmet, light reflectors, bright reflector overcoat, strong boots, warm wear and strong clothes. The child may even consider these as unnecessary extras / burdens but the father bought them because of his better understanding of the child's need for safety if the child's joy and fun is going to last long. That's how the Holy Spirit works for the believer and gives us better insight to Romans 8:28 **“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose”**. The Holy Spirit also:

- [1] Leads believers into prayer, increases their desire to pray and strengthens them in prayer (Luke 4:1; Matthew 26:36-41)
- [2] Opening our eyes to the needs around us (Acts 9:10-18; 10:9-44; Jeremiah 33:3)
- [3] Adds special depth, power and faith to our prayers (Romans 8:26).
- [4] Prompts believers to pray for specific needs of other people.

God did not just give us instruction book on how to pray, but a person - someone who will pray with us and for us - The Holy Spirit. **What a privileged partner in prayer!** Recognising Him will transform your prayer life.