



The Holy Spirit Enables Us In Prayer

**Adapted from Tony Evans Life's Essentials for Knowing God Better,
Experiencing God Deeper, Loving God More**

The Gathering ~ Tuesday, June 17, 2025
Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale



John 14:15-18



Romans 8:26-27

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we are to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.


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**God has provided us with
everything we need to be
powerful and precise in our
conversations with him.**



He has given us:

- wonderful promises to pray.
- principles and a model to follow when praying.
- access to his will and wisdom.
- keys to open and knowledge of those things that lock the door to his heart.



**We want to be as precise in our
praying as possible. It is precision
that makes us successful and that is
what God wants for us.**



**The Holy Spirit, the very
presence of God within us.**




Kendrick Brothers

The Holy Spirit is the engine of the Christian life guiding and empowering us to do what we could not do on our own. He is the holy rushing wind of God, breathing life through every part of our prayer life.



Romans 8:26

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness.

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**It is in the eighth chapter of
Roman where Paul talks
specifically about life in the
Spirit with all of its benefits.**



**The Spirit gives us the ability
to live free from sin.**



**By the Spirit, we have been
adopted into the family of God
as sons and daughters.**




**We are led by the
Spirit of God.**



John 14:33

In this world, you will have trouble, but
take heart, I have overcome the world.


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**All of creation feels the effects
and has been groaning under the
strain and the pain that sin
produced in our world.**



Discussion

What kinds of discrimination have you experienced in this life?



**We have been set free from
any frustration caused by living
in a sinful world.**



Romans 8:18

Our present sufferings are not worth
comparing to the glory that will be
revealed in us.

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**The Holy Spirit has been given
to us as the first fruits of all that
God has in store for us, giving us
hope and allowing us to wait
patiently for our redemption.**



We have hope!



**Not only do we have hope,
but we also have help!**



**The Holy Spirit helps us in
our prayer life.**



Ephesians 6:18

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all of God's people.




**The Spirit enables us
in our praying.**




John 14:16-17a


I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.




**In the KJV, the Holy Spirit is
referred to by the Greek word
“parakletos” translated
“comforter.”**



**The newer English versions
have “helper” “Counselor”
or “Advocate.”**




**One who is called alongside to
help, to counsel or intercede on
behalf of someone else.**



The Holy Spirit is the divine helper who does not work instead of us or in spite of us; he works in us, through us and with us.



**Our desires often dictate what
we pray for.**

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**Sometimes we know God's
will, but we are not ready to
pray for it.**




Philippians 2:12-13

Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.



We cannot see the future.

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**What might look good or feel
good to us today may be our
undoing tomorrow?**



**We may know what we want
but not what we need.**



No Way!



Isaiah 46:8

Remember this, keep it in mind, take it to heart, you rebels. Remember the former things those of long ago. I am God, and there is no other; I am God and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come.




**The Holy Spirit knows the
future.**



John 16:13

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is to come.

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**Often, we don't know how to pray
because we are discouraged,
depressed and don't have words
to articulate our pain, our
frustrations, our sorrow.**



Hebrews 5:7

During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.



John 12:27

Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say, Father, save me from this hour? No, it was for this very reason that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.



Discussion

When do you most need help in prayer? Under what circumstances, when you are feeling what – overwhelmed, pressured, anxious, struggling to do God's will?



Another Comforter

Our English word “comfort” comes from two Latin words meaning, “with strength.”



**True comfort strengthens and
fortifies us to face life's
challenges and keep on going.**



C.H.Dodd

The intercession of the Holy Spirit in prayer for us “as the Divine in us appealing to the Divine above us.”



Hebrews 7:24-25

Jesus stands at the right hand of the Father interceding for us.




**The Holy Spirit within us
also intercedes for us.**




I Corinthians 1:10b - 12

The Spirit knows the mind of God, the will of God, God's purpose for our lives.

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The Spirit also searches our hearts, so that he knows what we really need and want, even when we don't!




**The Holy Spirit translates our
inarticulate or painful groaning, our
requests that are off the wall, and our
good efforts in prayer into effective
and earnest requests to the Father.**



Roman 8:27

The Spirit intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express or wordless groans.



**The Spirit is holy, so that
anything that is under his
influence or control is holy.**



Romans 8:14

For those who are led by the Spirit are the children of God.



Samuel Chadwick

Nothing is too trivial for omniscience. Come straight to God. Lay all questions naked before him and he will make it plain to you what his will is.



How does the Spirit guide us in our praying?

1. Sometimes through a still small voice.



How does the Spirit guide us in our praying?

2. Sometimes he prompts us – Isaiah 30:21
 - a. He prompted Ananias to pray for Saul. – Acts 9:10-11
 - b. He prompted Philip to share with the Ethiopian official. – Acts 8:29-30



How does the Spirit guide us in our praying?

3. He may drive us from within or draw us from without by external circumstances.



How does the Spirit guide us in our praying?

4. He may plant suggestions in our mind, dropping people and situations in our hearts for which to pray.



How does the Spirit guide us in our praying?

5. He may lead us by his word.



Discussion

Name a time when you didn't know how to pray and you are clear the Holy Spirit guided you, gave you the words to say?



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