

The Holy Spirit—Our Help in Prayer

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I. Introduction.

A. One of our most powerful privileges is the power of prayer.

B. Text: Romans 8:26.

II. We need the Holy Spirit's help in prayer because we do not know how to pray.

A. This has nothing to do with a person's spirituality. (John 12)

B. Jesus struggled in prayer. (Matthew 26:39)

C. Paul struggled in prayer. (Philippians 1, II Corinthians 3)

D. The Spirit was sent to help us because we do not know how to pray.

E. One of the Spirit's primary responsibilities is a helper for prayer. (John 14, 15:26, 16:7)

F. A helper is one who aides us in weakness (John 14), but it is also one who shares the load. (Luke 10)

G. The Spirit is personally involved in everything that we are doing.

H. Prayer cannot be neglected.

I. The Spirit as part of the Godhead is adequate for all of our needs.

1. He is omnipotent.

2. He is omniscient.

III. We need the Spirit's help because He understands our weaknesses. (Colossians 1:9)

A. The Spirit understands what are needs are, so He knows what to pray for.

B. The Spirit knows our needs and desires. (Matthew 6:32, Hebrews 4, I Corinthians 2:11)

C. The Spirit will reveal to us the Father's will. (I Corinthians 2:12, John 16)

1. The Spirit always intercedes for us for the Father's will because He knows the mind of God.

2. The Spirit of God burdens a person to pray for another even though he does not know what is going on.

3. We are a body and God intends for us to feel the groaning of others in the body.
(Ephesians 6:20, Jude 23)

IV. We must cooperate with the Holy Spirit in prayer.

A. This means a person must be saved first. (Romans 2)

B. One must yield his will to the Spirit.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says the more spiritual a person is, the more he should know how to pray? Explain.

2. Why is it that the Spirit is the means by which we should pray? How should this practically look?

3. Spend some time in prayer, but try to focus on listening to the Spirit. What burden is God placing on your heart?
