

4. Describe a time in your life when you did not know how to pray about something.

What did you learn from our study that helps you at times like these?

5. How do we let the Holy Spirit do the interceding? What is the method?

Wonderful Benefits of the Indwelling Holy Spirit

(Part 2)

Romans 8:26-29

I. A Brief Review:

So far, we have seen two wonderful benefits of the indwelling Holy Spirit: 1) We are included into God's family — we are His Sons, 2) We have a wonderful hope.

II. NOW, A Third Benefit:

We have a new _____ helper! 8:26-29

VERSE 26 — “In the same way ...” Just as we have a _____ that carries us through our suffering, SO WE HAVE A _____ who carries us through our PRAYER DEFICIENCIES!” — **THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

FOUR QUESTIONS TO HELP US UNPACK THIS TRUTH:

1. What _____ the Holy Spirit _____ ?

He “_____” us in our **WEAKNESS** in _____!

“**HELPS**” = means to carry, to bear up, to support, to undergird

He does this when “we do not know “_____ to _____” as we should, i.e, when we do not know what God's _____ is.

NOTE WHAT PAUL IS NOT SAYING: He is not saying that the Holy Spirit helps us when we DO NOT PRAY! The Holy Spirit is not our divine prayer when we are spiritually lazy in our prayer life!

2. How _____ He _____ us?— (vs. 26 & 27)

He, **HIMSELF**, _____ for us according to the will of God.

“Intercedes” = to make a petition, a request, a plea.

“according to God” — in alignment with —

“with groanings too deep for words” — human words can’t express!

3. What _____ His help _____? — (vs. 28-30)

He will _____ **ALL** _____ to work for good to those who love God.

Let’s break this down into smaller pieces so we can understand it better.

- “**All things**” — What does this refer to?
- “**work together**” = comes from a Greek word that we get our word “synergism” from.
- “**for good**” = (Gr. AGATHOS) that which is beneficial, helpful, useful.

Beloved, let us be clear, **the “beneficial thing” may not be enjoyable, in fact it may hurt, it may be painful, but God knows that it will produce benefit (good) in our life or the lives of others.**

EXAMPLES from God’s Word:

- Joseph — Exodus 50:20
- Paul who had a “thorn in the flesh” — 2 Corinthians 12:5-10

4. To _____ does this _____? — (vs. 28)

To those who _____ **GOD** and those who are _____ according to His purpose!

A word of APPLICATION: FOUR simple things to remember:

1. Our weakness in prayer is God’s way of showing His glorious **STRENGTH!**
2. Our weakness in prayer does not mean we quit but we **YIELD!**
3. Our weakness in prayer does not mean that God is not at **WORK!**
4. **SUBMITTING** to God’s will always results in “good” (benefit) to our lives!

SUNDAY SCHOOL DISCUSSION NOTES

Romans 8:26-29

Please take a few minutes to READ Romans 8:26-29 ***BEFORE*** you come to Sunday School. Let it be fresh in our mind and thinking.

REVIEW: ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO REVIEW

1. What is the “weakness” that Paul is referring to?
2. Who is doing the praying (interceding)?
3. What is the *focus* of the Holy Spirit’s intercession?
4. What is the *guaranteed outcome* of the Holy Spirit’s ministry?

DISCUSS:

1. What did you learn from this study that you did not know before?
2. In Romans 8:26-27 we learned that the Holy Spirit *INTERCEDES* us, but in Hebrews 7:25 & Romans 8:34 we find that Jesus Christ is *INTERCEDING* for us, too.

How is their *intercession* different? Why is this important?