

The Holy Spirit
Helps Us
PRAY!



OUR DAILY BREAD

Junior Edition
4-27-08



SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.* (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

We are now near the end of our

L O N G

but

VERY IMPORTANT

study about all the things God gives His children so that they can RESIST temptations. This study began LAST YEAR (Imagine that!) in September when one of our students asked this question:



How can we avoid temptations such as drugs & alcohol?

Each week, we searched the scriptures to find GOD'S VERY IMPORTANT AN-

SWER to that VERY IMPORTANT QUESTION!

We learned about a special SPIRITUAL ARMOR that God's gives ALL His children to WEAR ON THEIR SOULS (their THINKING) to help them RESIST all kinds of temptations each & every day that God gives them to live down here on earth.

If you need to review any of what we learned so far, you can look up all those past lessons on the internet or ask for a copy at church. The first one was 9-16-07.)

Now besides this special SPIRITUAL ARMOR which God gives ALL His children, ALL God's children also have a special PERSON who lives within them. This PERSON teaches God's children about this special armor & also gives God's

children POWER to USE all the ARMOR at just the RIGHT TIME in just the RIGHT WAY to say NO to temptation! Who is this PERSON? Jesus tells us who it is in this scripture:



“But the Comforter, *which* is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”
John 14:26 KJB

Who is this PERSON OF POWER living inside EVERY PERSON who simply accepts Jesus Christ as his or her Savior?

It is God
The Holy Spirit!

The Holy Spirit does LOTS of things for God’s children! We’ve already learned about some of them in our last 2 lessons. And today, we will learn about one more VERY POWERFUL thing that the Holy Spirit helps all God’s children do! What is that POWERFUL THING that the Holy Spirit does to help us? As ALWAYS, we will SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES to find out!

Read these scriptures to find out:

“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities:”
Romans 8:26 KJB

This scripture tells us that the Holy Spirit helps God's children with their INFIRMITIES.

What are INFIRMITIES?

Well, as we said last week, you should always have a GOOD DICTIONARY on hand when reading your King James Bible so you can LOOK UP words that you may not know.

Here's what the dictionary says:

An *infirmity* is a lack of strength.

An *infirmity* is a weakness or failing in somebody's character.

So now we understand that the Holy Spirit helps God's children with their INFIRMITIES. The Holy Spirit helps God's children with their WEAKNESS. But WHAT kind of INFIRMITIES or LACK OF STRENGTH or WEAKNESS does the Holy Spirit help us with? Well, we already know that He helps us with our lack of strength or weakness to LEARN God's Word on our own. Without the Holy Spirit we could NEVER know Jesus or His Word. We already know that the Holy Spirit helps us with our weakness to USE God's Word when we face temptation. But what are the infirmities or weaknesses or lack of strength about which this particular scripture



is speaking? For that we need to READ ON! Let's CONTINUE SEARCHING Romans 8:26 to find out exactly WHAT kind of infirmity God is talk-



ing about in this scripture.

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmi-

ties: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought:"

There it is! There is the INFIRMITY, the LACK OF STRENGTH, the WEAKNESS for which the Holy Spirit helps all God's children! Our INFIRMITY, our LACK OF STRENGTH, our WEAKNESS here in Romans 8:26 is that



"we know not what we should pray for as we ought".

Our INFIRMITY, our WEAKNESS, our LACK of STRENGTH is that we DON'T ALWAYS KNOW WHAT WE SHOULD PRAY FOR as we should! We don't always know what God wants us to pray for in certain situations! There we have it. Another POWERFUL THING that the Holy Spirit does for ALL GOD'S CHILDREN is this:

The Holy Spirit helps us pray!

I for one, sure am glad of that! As God's child, I want to make sure that I am praying for things that GOD wants me to pray for, especially for people I love, since only GOD'S things are the VERY BEST things I could pray for them!



So now that we know that God the Holy Spirit helps us PRAY for things we OUGHT to pray for, let's

SEARCH the scriptures some more to find out HOW the Holy Spirit helps us pray for the things we OUGHT TO PRAY FOR!

First we'll read the rest of Romans 8:26. That scripture tells us this:

"...but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Is your DICTIONARY still handy? Mine is. We need it to help us with this scripture too! We need to know what the word "intercession" means. First let's look at the word INTERCEDE since that word INTERCESSION comes from that word INTERCEDE. Here is what my dictionary says the about the word "intercede":

INTERCEDE means to plead for somebody. It means to plead with somebody in authority on behalf of somebody else. It means to speak for somebody.

INTERCESSION is the action of pleading on somebody's behalf - pleading for somebody. It is a prayer to God on behalf of another.

That word INTERCESSION tells us that whenever we DON'T KNOW what to pray for - whether for ourselves or for others - God the Holy Spirit SPEAKS TO GOD THE FATHER FOR US! And remember! The Holy Spirit IS God so He knows



EXACTLY what to say to God for us!

Sometimes we may be so confused or worried or frightened or tired, that we are not sure what to ask God for. But in our hearts, we TRULY want what God wants. So even though WE don't know exactly what to pray for in those situations, the Holy Spirit knows EXACTLY what to say to God the Father for us. And Romans 8:26 tells us that the Holy Spirit speaks to God the Father with "groanings which cannot be uttered." Now I don't know EXACTLY what that means; but it seems to me that the Holy Spirit speaks to God in a special kind of way - a POWERFUL WAY - a way that our human words cannot UTTER or SPEAK!

Now let's read Romans 8:27 to see WHAT the Holy Spirit asks for on our behalf.

"And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* mind of the Spirit. Because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." (All believers in Jesus Christ are called saints.)

When we do NOT know what to pray for, the Holy Spirit speaks on our behalf for GOD'S WILL for the situation. And as we have already learned - GOD'S WILL or WHAT GOD WANTS for ANY situation is the BEST THING!

So now we know that another very important job that the Holy Spirit has in the lives of God's children is to HELP THEM PRAY as





they SHOULD! And guess what! PRAYER is part of the SPIRITUAL ARMOR that God gives all His children!



It is one of the

SPIRITUAL WEAPONS

Which God gives to all His children!

(We hope you PRAY every day!)

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”

Ephesians 6:17-18 KJB

Prayer is VERY IMPORTANT. And we need the Holy Spirit’s power to pray. Prayer is a PRIVILEGE for all God’s children. It is a BLESSING to be able to go to the God of all the universe any time

Something to think about!

we need to - day or night - for anything at all! And it is WONDERFUL that the Holy Spirit helps us pray when we don’t know what to pray for! We’ll continue learning more about prayer in 2 weeks.

Did you ever wonder WHY prayer is so important? I mean, if God KNOWS EVERYTHING, and HE

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

Directions

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



Grace Christian Fellowship

232 Woonasquatucket Avenue, North Providence, RI 02911
Tel 401.233.9671 • Fax 401.223.1292 • www.GraceCFellowship.org