

Pray by the Power of the Spirit

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Romans 8:9-30; Gal 4:4-6; Mk 14:32-36

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

I. Prayer with Your Salvation as a Legal Act

- Rom 8:1-4 - Great Exchange
- You become part of God's family - Rom 8:29
- God is our Father; Jesus is our Brother Gal 4:4-6
- Do you feel like God's Beloved Child? God gives the Spirit: Rm 8:14-17
- If God didn't give us the Spirit, we probably wouldn't pray

II. Struggles with Prayer

- If you don't feel the assurance of the Spirit: Return to Gospel Basics!
- We are not to walk in fear Rom 8:15; but the Spirit of adoption
- We are to cry out "Abba Father"
 - the cry a child makes when in trouble
 - Jesus prayed "Abba Father" Mk 14:32-36
 - When you feel pain of fallen world callout "Abba Father" Rm 8:19-20
 - The Spirit is given to help us out in those times! Rm 8:26-27
 - Sometimes our best prayers are too deep for words...

III. Know about Spirit inspired prayer 26-27

- Spirit HELPS your prayers 26
 - Spirit bears us up when we can't
- Spirit TRANSLATES your prayers 26-27
 - Spirit translates our prayers so they are perfect prayers – according to the Will of God!
- We always get what we need from our Gracious Father, Son, Spirit

IV. Applications for Prayer

- Remember these truths:
 - God the Father loves to hear us pray
 - God the Son makes every prayer we pray pleasing to God
 - God the Spirit helps us as we pray
- Prayer is nothing but the outworking of the Gospel: we come to the Father through the work of the Son in the power of the Spirit!
- Grow in prayer by appreciating the Gospel more!

- Focus on the POWER of the Gospel (what God has done)
 - God, Sin, Jesus, Faith
- so that you can ask God to work out the
- PURPOSE of the Gospel in your life:
 - Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration

Think through:

Prayer is understanding the WHY God has saved you – for His glory so that you can become part of WHAT God is doing – living for His glory

- our culture sees God as unapproachable – but when you pray you approach God and the Spirit testifies He is your Father!
- we often feel our lives are a mess or consumed by anxiety – but when you pray you remember God can and does intervene and He is in control!
- we often feel God is distant or abandoned us – but when you pray you remind yourself of the truths that He is with you and Hears you!
- do you feel unworthy? Prayer reminds you that God has made you worthy by sending Jesus and the Spirit helps you remember and guides you
- You may feel impotent in serving God – but prayer reminds us that it is God's actions that really matter... and you are His child!

A Prayer from Romans 15:5-6,13 from Tim Chester, You Can Pray, 49

Father, you are the God who gives endurance and encouragement.

Give us the same attitude of mind towards each other that Christ Jesus had,

so that with one mind and one voice we may glorify you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Father, you are the God of hope.

Fill us with all joy and peace as we trust in you,

so that we may overflow with hope

by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.