

The Best Chapter in the Bible #8

Romans 8:26-27 Derek Thomas

Outline:

1. The struggle of prayer
2. The help of prayer
3. The success of prayer

Questions:

1. How would you describe *the purpose of prayer*?
2. Disappointments in prayer are common. What are some things that frustrate your prayers?
3. Is it surprising to think about Jesus struggling in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane? Why?
4. How can we know for certain those things for which we should be praying?
5. Have somebody retell the story of Derek Thomas moving the piano and then the rest of the group apply that story to the text in Romans 8:26.
6. Who is doing the “groaning” in verse 26? What difference does it make?
7. “*The Spirit fixes our prayers on the way up.*” What are your reactions to this statement?
- 8a. If the Spirit “fixes our prayers” then why bother to pray (just let the Spirit do our praying)?
- 8b. “*...the Spirit knows how to pray in accordance with the will of God because He is God. He knows the mind of God because He is God.*” Do you think the Spirit of God will fix any of our prayers if we don’t pray them in the first place?

Romans 8:16-27 *Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*