

THE SPIRIT'S PRAYER ASSISTANCE

June 5, 2022 Various Texts by Bob Branch
Alive In The Spirit, part 5

BIG IDEA: The Spirit helps us pray so we can connect with God—and has a lot of avenues to make that happen.

1. The Spirit connects us to the _____ as family.

“Abba, Father” **Mark 14:36**

“The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.” **Rom. 8:15-17** (Gal. 4:4-7; 1 Jn 3:1)

2. The Spirit helps us when we _____ to pray.

“We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies... Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.” **Rom. 8:22-23, 26-27**

3. The Spirit will _____ and _____ us as we converse with him. (Is. 6:8)

“The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man

reading Isaiah the prophet. *“Do you understand what you are reading?” “How can I, unless someone explains it to me?”* So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.” **Acts 8:29-31** (Rom. 8:26-27; John 5:19)

4. The Spirit _____ thru praying/singing in tongues.

3 modes of tongues:

- 1) Unknown to speaker, known to hearers. (Acts 2)
- 2) Unknown to speaker, needs interpreting. (1 Cor. 14)
- 3) “Personal prayer language” useful for praying/praising.

“For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit... Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.” **1 Corinthians 14:2, 4-5**

“For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding... You are giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified.” **1 Corinthians 14:14-15, 17**

IN PRACTICE:

- Ask the Spirit to reveal God’s love to you. Often.
- When you lack words in your pain, groan with the Spirit.
- Daily ask God to prompt you to join him in his work.
- If you’d like to speak in tongues, ask.