

Praying with the Spirit

Romans 8:26-27

The current uncertainty in this world is overwhelming. It reminds us (yet again) of the many limits to our understanding, i.e., our ability to comprehend our own history, let alone our future. We cannot possibly know _____ to _____. Thus, the Spirit.

Discussion 1. Can you think of a time or circumstance in your life when you did not know how to pray, but God ended up doing an amazing thing anyway? Can you recall a time when you thanked God for something he did or gave, but you didn't even ask Him for?

Prayer, as a regular discipline, changes us. The more we enter into intimacy with God through prayer, the more we learn to see ourselves and our world through _____. This is the work of the Spirit in us.

Discussion 2. Do you believe being able to see the world through God's eyes (rather than through your eyes) would change how you pray? Why or why not? Is there a circumstance in your life right now that you wish you could see through God's eyes?

Because our prayer is to a God who already knows our heart and our thoughts better than we know them ourselves, we are free to merely "enter in" to His presence with no plan and no pressure. Being heard and _____ is that simple.

Discussion 3. Practically speaking, what do you do in your prayer times when you simply do not have the words for what you are feeling? Do you find that sitting quietly with God is easy to do or difficult? Why?

The Spirit is the ideal helper when we pray, translating our heart into the perfect spiritual interface with a Heavenly Father whose love and mercy and grace exceed anything we can think or imagine. _____, then, is exactly the right response today.

Discussion 4. Do you have a regular prayer discipline in your life? When, where and with whom? If you were giving advice to a brand new believer about prayer, what would you say?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?