## Wordless Prayer <br> Romans 8:26-27

One of the many limitations on our human condition is our inability to see with much clarity what is going on in the unseen spiritual world around us. But God's Spirit (in us as believers) $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ how to be praying on our behalf.

Discussion 1. Do you consider it a good thing or a bad thing that we cannot see clearly what is going on in the spiritual world around us? Do you believe the process of prayer can help us "see" more clearly? If so, how?

When we are holding before the Father $\qquad$ (in ourselves or in others) and we do not have the words to communicate our heart, the Spirit has the means to carry that pain before the Lord on our behalf.

Discussion 2. Can you think of some examples (from your own life or from the lives of close friends or family) of the kinds of pain or struggles where words might fail us in our ability to communicate our heart to God in prayer? When that happens, and there are no words to pray, what exactly does your prayer time look like?

For the Christ follower, in whom God's Spirit resides, prayer is not "sending a message", i.e., there is no postage required, no number to dial or text. It is as simple as holding our $\qquad$ thoughts and feelings before God. He knew them all before we did.

Discussion 3. If God already knows our thoughts and our feelings, even before we do, then what do you think is the purpose behind communicating them to Him in prayer?

We can never pray with more confidence than when our prayers line up perfectly with ; and no prayers line up more perfectly with God's will $\overline{\text { than those offered by God's very Spirit on our behalf. }}$

Discussion 4. Is there any way we can know whether we are praying in accordance with God's will? If so, how? Why do you suppose it is that the more time we spend in prayer, the more our prayers begin to line up with God's will?

