

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – August 22, 2021**

**Theme:** The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit **Topic:** The Holy Spirit intercedes for us

**Main Text:** Rom 8: 11 - 30.

**Key verse:** Romans 8:26 *“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”* (NKJV)

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**INTRODUCTION:** We have seen the different works of the Holy Spirit through the previous lessons. Romans chapter 8 shows many other roles of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer: He assures us of our sonship, He gives life and peace, He helps us to cry out “Abba, Father” and *‘likewise, the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered’* (Romans 8:26). The word intercession means to ask someone for help on behalf of another or to pray to God on behalf of another. It is amazing that God did not leave us to pray for ourselves all by ourselves. He made provision to cover for our inadequacies and weaknesses even in prayer. Just as Jesus still intercedes for us from where He is seated in glory, so also the Holy Spirit living inside of us intercedes for us from here on earth. God has truly covered us on all fronts to ensure we live victorious lives.

1. **Read Matthew 20:22; Romans 8:15, 26. (a) what do you think are the weaknesses the Holy Spirit helps us in? (b) Why do you think it was important for God to add the ministry of intercession to the works of the Holy Spirit? (c) Why is it important for a believer to know and understand that the Holy Spirit makes intercession for him/her?**

The Holy Spirit lives inside of us and so He knows our deep needs that we have, but of which we are unaware, accordingly, we do not think to pray for them and so we do not know how to pray as we ought. Apostle Peter was in this kind of situation, completely oblivious of the happenings of the next few hours nor the need to pray for himself; but Jesus prayed for him. But for the prayer of Jesus, Peter probably would not have bounced back to his position and relationship with Christ. Jesus suddenly said to Peter while administering the last supper *‘Simon, Simon! Satan has asked to have all of you, to sift you as wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to Me again, strengthen and build up your brethren* (Luke 22:31,32 NLT). In the same way Jesus prayed to God on Peter’s behalf, so the Holy Spirit now with us prays on our behalf.

2. **Read Job 37:19; James 4:3. (a) Why do you think it is sometimes challenging to know what to pray for and how to pray as we ought? (b) Let participants share their experiences of seemingly answered prayers of things or situations that they did not intentionally pray about. (c) What should be our response when we have experiences as described in question b?**

Jesus said in several passages that we should ask anything in His name, and it will be done (John 15:7, 16:24). Apostle John reiterated the same thing in 1 John 5:14 -15 *‘... that if we ask anything according to the will of God, He hears us and we have the confidence that we have whatever we ask for.’* Yet, God in His mercy did not want to leave prayer completely to us. He added it to the works of the Holy Spirit whom He gave to be in us and abide with us forever. The Holy Spirit’s role to intercede for us according to the will of God is an express path to answered prayers. He prays according to our needs which He discerns, according to our dangers which He foresees and according to the desires which He has towards us. Therefore, He is our advocate (John 14:16). This ought to give us confidence, encouragement, and power to completely live for Him. As we submit to the Holy Spirit and give Him His proper place in our lives, we are assured of victory from every front. Furthermore, Jesus, Himself is still praying for us right now from His position at the right hand of God the Father.

3. **(a) According to Romans 8:27-29, how should the intercessory ministry of the Holy Spirit encourage you? (b) In what way(s), if any, can we hinder the Holy Spirit’s ministry of intercession? (c) What is your key lesson from this study? How are you going to apply it in the next 6 days?**

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**Prayer:** *Our dear heavenly Father, we thank You that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us. We thank You that He knows our deepest needs of which we are not even aware and intercedes for us according to Your will. Amen.*